

Division BX9562
Section .P8A2
1883-72

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL SESSIONS.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SYNOD OF THE POTOMAC

OF THE

✓
REFORMED CHURCH

IN THE

UNITED STATES

Synod of Potomac

AT

MECHANICSBURG, PA., OCTOBER 11th, 1887.

PHILADELPHIA :
REFORMED CHURCH PUBLICATION BOARD,
907 ARCH STREET.
1887.

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Fifteenth Annual Meeting.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

Of the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States at its Annual Sessions, in Mechanicsburg, Pa., in the month of October, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty-seven. The Sessions commenced on the evening of the eleventh and continued until the evening of the seventeenth day of the month, inclusive, at 10 o'clock.

ARTICLE I.

OPENING OF SYNOD.

The Synod convened in St. Paul's Reformed Church, of Mechanicsburg, Cumberland County, Pa., on Tuesday evening, October 11th, A.D. 1887, at 7 o'clock, agreeably to appointment of the last annual meeting, and was opened with appropriate religious services. The President of the previous year, Rev. Wm. Goodrich, preached the opening sermon from Acts 10 : 38—"How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power : who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil ; for God was with Him." At the conclusion of the sermon, the President called the Synod to order, and formally opened it with prayer. Whereupon the provisional synodic roll was called, and a quorum was found to be in attendance.

ARTICLE II.

DELEGATES PRESENT.

I. FROM THE CLASSIS OF ZION.

Ministers :—Aaron Spangler,^e Alfred F. Driesbach,^f Jacob O. Miller, D.D.,^e and Aaron Wanner, D.D.³

Elders :—Charles A. Shultz, Dietrich Hildebrand,^f and Milton W. Bahn.^f

II. FROM THE CLASSIS OF MARYLAND.

Ministers :—Simon S. Miller, Silas M. Hench, Joel T. Rossiter,^e E. Ranson Deatrick, Leighton G. Kremer,^d Nehemiah H. Skyles, Abraham B. Stoner, Edmund R. Eschbach, D.D.,^d William Goodrich,^d T. Franklin Hoffmeier,² and Joseph W. Santee, D.D.²

Elders :—William H. Lakin,^d George M. Harbaugh, Daniel Shafer, Goldsborough S. Griffith,^f and Daniel B. Seibert.

III. FROM THE CLASSIS OF MERCERSBURG.

Ministers :—William C. Cremer, Jacob Hassler, J. David Miller, J. William Knappenberger, and William M. Deatrick, D.D.

Elders :—Frederick A. Daihl,^f Andrew R. Schnebly, William Dice, and Caspar Wicke.²

IV. FROM THE CLASSIS OF VIRGINIA.

Ministers :—Samuel N. Callender, D.D.,^f John A. Hoffheins, Alpha K. Kline, George A. Whitmore, and Henry St. John Rinker.³

Elders :—John H. Bauserman,^f William A. Pence,^f Henry W. Roller,^f and Daniel S. Rentch.^{3 e}

V. FROM THE CLASSIS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Minister :—Lewis Reiter.

VI. FROM THE CLASSIS OF GETTYSBURG.

Ministers :—William H. Herbert, Milton H. Sangree, David N. Dittmar, Francis S. Lindaman,^d John C. Bowman,^d and Henry Hilbish.³

Elders :—Henry C. Schriver,^f David Kump,^f Oliver F. Neely, and Andrew Cluck.^d

VII. FROM THE CLASSIS OF CARLISLE.

Ministers :—William I. Stewart, Amos H. Kremer, D.D.,² J. Marion Mickly,^{2 e} and Milton H. Groh.^{3 d}

Elders :—William Wagner, Samuel A. Basehore, George Hoobaugh,³ and Charles Weirich.^{3 f}

VIII. FROM THE CLASSIS OF JUNIATA.

Ministers :—Diodorus S. Dieffenbacher, Cyrus J. Musser, Calvin S. Slagle,^e Isaac N. Peightel,^e Edgar S. Hassler, F. Wilson Brown, and Calvin U. Heilman.⁴

Elders :—George L. Freet, Benjamin Fouse, John R. Lefferd, Josiah Ritchey, and William C. Ritchey.^d

IX. FROM THE CLASSIS OF SAN FRANCISCO.

No delegates present.

X. FROM THE CLASSIS OF PORTLAND-OREGON.

No delegates present.

The figure at the end of a name indicates the day of the sessions on which the delegate took his seat.

The letters in their order indicate the day on which the delegates obtained leave of absence.

The seat of Rev. A. Wanner was occupied during the sessions of Wednesday afternoon and Thursday forenoon by Rev. R. Rahauser; that of Rev. T. F. Hoffmeier during the sessions of Tuesday evening and Wednesday forenoon by Rev. D. A. Souders; that of Rev. C. U. Heilman during the sessions of Tuesday evening, Wednesday forenoon and afternoon, and Thursday forenoon and afternoon by Rev. J. W. Alspach; and that of Rev. C. S. Slagle by the same during the sessions of Monday.

ADVISORY MEMBERS PRESENT.

The following were enrolled as advisory members, who were present during one or more of the sessions, namely:

Zion's Classis.—Revs. Ambrose D. Gring and Reuben Rahauser.

Maryland Classis.—Revs. Henry I. Comfort, David A. Souders, and Samuel L. Whitmore.

Mercersburg Classis.—Revs. George W. Aughinbaugh, D.D., Isaac M. Motter, Franklin F. Bahner, Cyrus Cort, P. Allison Long, and Elders Jacob Heyser and Samuel Hoeflich.

Virginia Classis.—Rev. Joseph S. Loose.

Gettysburg Classis.—Elder Henry Wirt.

Carlisle Classis.—Revs. George E. Addams, Samuel S. Meyer, Silas L. Messinger, and Elders Henry M. Cocklin, Henry Wetzell, and Moses Hess.

Juniata Classis.—Rev. Joel W. Alspach.

Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States.—Revs. C. G. Fisher, T. M. Yundt, E. E. Higbee, D.D., F. W. Kremer, D.D., D. B. Schneder, A. C. Whitmer, G. W. Snyder, J. M. Titzel, D.D., H. Binkley, H. T. Spangler, W. F. Lichliter, A. R. Bartholomew, J. M. Souder, and Elder Wm. H. Seibert.

MINISTERS OF OTHER CHURCHES.

The presence was announced, from time to time, of Revs. S. W. Reigart and J. C. Barr of the Presbyterian Church; Revs. H. N. Fegley, M. Ort, and L. S. Heisler of the Lutheran Church; Revs. Z. A. Colestock and J. R. Hutchison of the United Brethren Church; Revs. J. Stine, B. F. Stevens, and C. V. Hartzell of the Methodist Church; and Rev. G. Sigler of the Church of God.

ARTICLE III.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Rev. J. A. Hoffheins, *President*, Martinsburg, W. Va.

Rev. D. S. Dieffenbacher, *Vice-President*, Altoona, Pa.

Rev. W. M. Deatrick is *Stated Clerk*, Mercersburg, Pa.

Rev. J. D. Miller, *Corresponding Secretary*, Shippensburg, Pa.

Elder Henry Wirt, *Treasurer*, Hanover, Pa.

Rev. S. S. Miller, *Reading Clerk*, Boonsboro, Md.

ARTICLE IV.

RULES OF ORDER.

The Rules of Order, as modified by the General Synod, at Akron, Ohio, last June, were read and adopted as the Rules of Order for the Synod of the Potomac. Agreeably to the Rules of Order, the *Bar of the House* was defined to consist of the first seven pews from the chancel railing.

The following hours were fixed for the opening and closing of the sessions of Synod, to wit: The morning sessions to open at 9 and close at 11½ o'clock; the afternoon sessions to begin at 2 and end at 4½ o'clock; the evening business sessions to commence at 7 o'clock.

ARTICLE V.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

The President appointed the following Standing Committees, to wit:

Religious Services.—Rev. W. I. Stewart, A. F. Dreisbach, G. A. Whitmore, and Elders W. Wagner and H. C. Schriver.

Minutes of Synod.—Revs. W. M. Deatrick, L. G. Kremer, F. S. Lindaman, and Elders J. Ritchey and G. M. Harbaugh.

Minutes of General Synod.—Revs. A. K. Kline, J. Hassler, A. B. Stoner, and Elders M. W. Bahn and G. L. Freet.

Overtures.—Revs. J. O. Miller, D. A. Souders, J. W. Alspach, and Elders S. A. Basehore and F. A. Daihl.

Minutes of Classes.—Revs. J. D. Miller, E. S. Hassler, J. W. Knappenberger, J. W. Santee, and Elders J. H. Bauserman and O. F. Neely.

Examination, Licensure and Ordination.—Revs. A. H. Kremer, S. N. Callender, A. Spangler, and Elders G. S. Griffith and D. Hildebrand.

State of Religion and Statistics.—Revs. W. Goodrich, W. H. Herbert, F. W. Brown, and Elders W. C. Ritchey and W. Dice.

Education.—Revs. J. T. Rossiter, C. S. Slagle, E. R. Deatrick, and Elders D. Kump and J. R. Lefferd.

Missions.—Revs. C. J. Musser, L. Reiter, S. M. Hench, and Elders D. Shafer and C. A. Shultz.

Publication.—Revs. S. N. Callender, E. R. Eschbach, I. N. Peightel, W. C. Cremer, and Elders H. W. Roller and W. H. Lakin.

Finance.—Revs. D. N. Dittmar, S. N. Callender, S. S. Miller, and Elders W. A. Pence and A. R. Schnebly.

Nominations.—Revs. J. C. Bowman, N. H. Skyles, W. C. Cremer, and Elders J. H. Bauserman and H. C. Schriver.

Ministerial Necrology.—Revs. D. S. Dieffenbacher, M. H. Sangree, J. M. Mickly, and Elders D. B. Seibert and G. S. Griffith.

ARTICLE VI.

COMMUNICATIONS.

1. The Minutes of the Classes of Zion, Maryland, Mercersburg, Virginia, North Carolina, Gettysburg, Carlisle, Juniata, San Francisco and Portland-Oregon were received and referred to the Standing Committee on Minutes of Classes for examination, except the Reports on the State of Religion and the Statistical Tables, which were referred to the Standing Committee on those subjects.

2. The Annual Report of the Treasurer of Synod was presented, and referred to the Standing Committee on Finance, for the purpose of being audited.

3. The Annual Reports of the Board of Education, the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College, the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., and the Treasurer's Report of the same institution were presented to Synod and read, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Education for further consideration.

4. The Annual Reports of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, the Superintendent of Missions, the Treasurer of Home Missions and the Report of the Secretary of the Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions were received, and severally referred to the Standing Committee on Missions for further notice.

5. The Annual Report of the Publication Board of the Reformed Church was laid before the Synod and read, after which it was referred to the Standing Committee on Publication for consideration.

6. The Annual Reports of the Board of Trustees of Synod and the

Sunday-school Board were presented to the Synod, read and disposed of without reference. They will be found in their proper places.

7. A number of communications were received and referred to the Standing Committee on Overtures.

ARTICLE VII.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

The Synod, during its sessions, observed the following religious services, to wit:

1. The sessions of each day were severally opened and closed with appropriate religious services.

2. The Standing Committee on religious services reported as follows, which was received and adopted, namely:

Your Committee on Religious Services begs leave to report the following appointments for services:

REFORMED CHURCH.

Wednesday Evening.—Prayer-meeting at 6.45 o'clock, conducted by Rev. M. H. Sangree. Regular services at 7.15 o'clock. Sermon by Rev. J. C. Bowman. Liturgical services by Revs. D. S. Dieffenbacher and L. G. Kremer.

Thursday Evening.—Educational Meeting, conducted by Rev. W. Goodrich. Liturgical services by Rev. W. F. Lichliter. *Topic 1. The Expediency of the Synod of the Potomac maintaining a College in her own bounds, for her own Educational Work.* Speakers, Revs. A. H. Kremer and N. H. Skyles. *Topic 2. The Locality and Character of such an Institution.* Speakers, Revs. S. L. Whitmore and T. F. Hoffmeier.

Friday Evening.—Home Missionary Anniversary, conducted by Rev. J. O. Miller. Liturgical services by Rev. J. W. Knappenberger. Addresses by Revs. A. C. Whitmer, H. Hilbish and A. B. Stoner.

Saturday Afternoon.—Preparatory Services. Sermon by Rev. W. H. Herbert. Liturgical services by Revs. I. N. Peightel and F. W. Brown.

Saturday Evening.—Sunday-school Anniversary, conducted by Elder G. S. Griffith. Liturgical services by Rev. J. D. Miller. *Topic 1. Perils of the Youth of to-day.* Speakers, Revs. J. W. Santee and M. H. Sangree. *Topic 2. How to make Bible Study interesting in the Family.* Speakers, Revs. S. S. Miller and C. J. Musser.

Sunday Morning.—Sunday-school Meeting at 9 o'clock. Addresses by Revs. D. B. Schneder and A. D. Gring. Communion services at 10.30 o'clock. Sermon by Rev. C. J. Musser. Liturgical services by the Officers of the Synod.

Sunday Evening.—Missionary Prayer-meeting at 6.30 o'clock, conducted by Rev. J. A. Hoffheins. Foreign Missionary Anniversary, conducted by Rev. J. W. Santee. Liturgical services by Rev. J. W. Alspach. Addresses by Missionaries D. B. Schneder and A. D. Gring.

OTHER CHURCHES.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church.—Rev. T. F. Hoffmeier.

Presbyterian Church.—Revs. D. S. Dieffenbacher and W. C. Cremer.

Methodist Church.—Revs. C. Cort and N. H. Skyles.

Trinity Lutheran Church.—Revs. J. W. Knappenberger and A. K. Kline.

United Brethren Church.—Revs. S. L. Whitmore and F. W. Brown.

Church of God.—Revs. C. U. Heilman and J. D. Miller.

Union Church at Shepherdstown.—Rev. L. Reiter.

Respectfully submitted,

W. I. STEWART, *Chairman.*

ARTICLE VIII.

MINUTES OF SYNOD.

The reading of the Minutes of the last Annual Meeting publicly before the Synod was dispensed with, and the printed "Acts and Proceedings" of the last annual sessions of the Synod were referred to the Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod, to report such items of business as properly claimed the consideration of the present meeting of the Synod. During the session of Wednesday afternoon this Committee presented its report, which was received, considered item by item, adopted as a whole, and is as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MINUTES OF SYNOD.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

Your Committee, to whom were referred the printed Minutes of the Synod of last year for examination, after a careful inspection of them, begs leave to report the following items, as claiming the attention of the present sessions of the Synod, namely:

Item 1, page 7. The usual Standing Committee on Ministerial Necrology is appointed, whose duty it will be to report to the present meeting of the Synod; of which committee the Rev. C. U. Heilman is chairman.

Item 2, page 10. Item 5 of the Report on Minutes of Synod, requesting the Mercersburg Classis to re-consider its action revoking the licensure of John M. North, and item 14 of the same report with reference to the formation of a Classis in Japan, are referred to the present annual meeting of the Synod.

Item 3, page 11. The special attention of the several Classes is called to the claims of the Society for the Relief of Ministers and their Widows of the Reformed Church in the United States, with the special request that they instruct all their pastors to lift one collection annually at least in each of their congregations, on some Sunday before October in each Synodical year, for the uses of the Society.

Item 4, page 14. Zion's Classis is earnestly enjoined to pay its full assessment for Contingent Fund, and also its arrearage for Washington Mission Chapel.

Item 5, page 23. A committee is appointed to co-operate with the different pastors of the Classes in making prompt and energetic efforts to raise the amounts apportioned upon the Classes for Wichita College as soon as possible.

Item 6, page 25. The Synod renews its pledge to raise three hundred dollars annually for five years towards the payment of the interest on the indebtedness of Mercersburg College.

Item 7 page 25. The Synod assumes to raise, during the Synodical year just ended, five hundred dollars towards paying the principal of the debt of Mercersburg College; provided the Board of Regents, the Alumni and friends of the College will raise an equal amount for the same specific purpose.

Item 8, page 25. Thursday evening of the present sessions is set apart for the discussion of the educational interests of the Synod, and the subjects and order of discussion are committed to the Board of Education, with the limitation to two subjects and four speakers.

Item 9, page 25. Apportionments are made to meet the sum pledged by the Synod for Wichita College.

Item 10, page 26. Carlisle and Zion's Classes are reported as having paid only in part their apportionments for repairs to Mercersburg College made by the Synod of Chambersburg in 1885, and Juniata Classis as having not as yet paid anything on its apportionment.

Item 11, page 28. A special committee is appointed to correspond with Elder John Kunrath of Portland-Oregon, with a view to arranging the details of his proposed donation of a certain property for the use of a Mission House; of which committee Rev. J. O. Miller is chairman.

Item 12, page 28. It will be necessary to nominate for election by the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, three members of the Board of Visitors and six members likewise of the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., for the term of one year.

Item 13, page 29. It will be the duty of Synod to fill by election the vacancies that will occur in the Board of Education of those whose terms of service are about to expire.

Item 14, page 29. It will be necessary for the Synod to fill by election the vacancies that are about to take place in the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College of those members whose terms of office will end during the present month, and also that caused by the resignation of Rev. A. J. Heller.

Item 15, page 44. A certain plan for church building and church extension is referred to the Classes for consideration.

Item 16, page 45. It will be necessary to fill by election the vacancy that will occur in the Synodic Board of Missions during the present sessions of the Synod.

Item 17, page 48. Apportionments for Home Missions.

Item 18, page 48. Apportionments for Church Building Fund.

Item 19, page 48. Assessments for the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa.

Item 20, page 48. Assessments for Mercersburg College.

Item 21, page 48. Assessments for Contingent Fund.

Item 22, page 48. Certain arrearages are reported.

Item 23, page 49. The Report of the Committee to elaborate a plan for paying money into the Treasury of Synod, after being received and discussed awhile, was referred to this annual meeting for consideration and disposal.

Item 24, page 50. It will be necessary to elect a member of Synod's Board of Trustees to fill the place of Rev. A. H. Kremer, whose term of office will expire on the 1st of January next, agreeably to the charter.

Item 25, page 51. The Synod requests the Portland-Oregon Classis to give a hearing and careful consideration to the proposition laid before it by certain complainants.

Item 26, page 52. It will be necessary to fill by election the vacancy in the Sunday-school Board which will take place during the present sessions of the Synod.

Item 27, page 53. The Classes are recommended to conform their rules with regard to alternates or delegates *secundi* to the rule adopted by the Synod.

Item 28, page 58. Commissioners are appointed to act for the Synod in the reception, consideration and action upon the resignation of the Editor-in-Chief of *The Messenger*, should such resignation be tendered during the synodical year just closed.

Item 29, page 58. It will be necessary to fill the vacancy about to occur in the Reformed Church Publication Board by the expiration of the term of service of Elder G. S. Griffith.

Item 30, page 58. The Stated Clerk is instructed to have two thousand copies of the Acts and Proceedings of the last annual meeting published.

Item 31, page 58. The Stated Clerk is also directed to have five hundred copies of the Rules of Order, as adopted, printed for the use of the members of Synod.

Item 32, page 60. A committee is appointed to devise a plan to afford relief

to superannuated and disabled ministers, so as to furnish them with a sufficiency to live, if in need, of which committee Rev. J. S. Kieffer is chairman, with instructions to report to the present annual meeting of the Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Chairman.*

For the action of Synod on item 1, see Article XXII., Ministerial Necrology; on items 2, 3, 4, 15, 25 and 27, see Article X., Minutes of Classes; on items 5, 6, 7 and 8, see Article XIII., Education; on items 11 and 32, see Article XXI., Miscellaneous; items 12, 13, 14, 16, 24, 26 and 29 were severally referred to the Standing Committee on Nominations, to make the required nominations; on items 17 and 18, see Article XIV., Missions; on items 9, 10, 19, 20, 21, 22 and 23, see Article XV., Finance; on item 28, 30 and 31, see Article XX., Publications.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MINUTES OF GENERAL SYNOD.

The Standing Committee on the Minutes of the General Synod reported during the session of Wednesday afternoon. The report was received, disposed of item by item, amended, adopted as a whole, and is as follows:

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

Your Committee on the Minutes of the late General Synod, held in Akron, Ohio, to whom said Minutes were referred, begs leave to report that we have carefully examined them, and find the following items claiming the attention of this body, to wit:

Item 1, page 9. The attention of the District Synods is called to the amendments made to the Rules of Order, and they are enjoined to revise their former action on the subject accordingly.

Item 2, page 69. The General Synod once more earnestly commends the sacred cause of Home Missions to the District Synods and their Boards.

Item 3, page 70. The attention of the District Synods is called to that part of the Constitution requiring them to confine their missionary operations to their own territory, with the request that the missions, now operated by them beyond their own bounds, be transferred as soon as practicable to the General Synod's Board of Home Missions.

Item 4, page 70. The District Synods are requested to carry forward their Home Mission work in such manner as to open the way for the unification of our Home Missionary operations under the Board of the General Synod, at the earliest practicable date.

Item 5, page 90. The Society for the Relief of Ministers and their Widows of the Reformed Church in the United States is commended to the Synods, Classes, and congregations, with the request that a collection be taken for the use of the Society in the month of September.

Item 6, page 95. The District Synods are recommended to take such action as will enable the General Synod's Sunday-school Board to issue for the use of the whole Church uniform lesson helps and Sunday-school papers.

Item 7, page 149. The General Synod declares the *Directory of Worship* to be constitutionally adopted as the Directory of Worship in the Reformed Church in the United States.

Item 8, page 149. The following apportionments are made upon this Synod, namely: Contingent Expenses, \$429.44; Bohemian Church Aid, \$138.16; and Harbor Missions, \$337.41; total, \$905.01.

Item 9, page 167. The General Synod takes action on the great evil of intemperance, and calls upon the Synods, Classes and Churches to unite in zealous and persistent Christian efforts, looking towards its speedy extermination.

Item 10, page 169. The next meeting of the General Synod is to be held in the First Reformed Church of Lebanon, Pa., on Wednesday evening, May 28th, A. D. 1890, at 7½ o'clock.

Respectfully submitted,

A. K. KAINE, *Chairman.*

The amended Rules of Order of the General Synod were adopted by the Synod as its Rules of Order, for its guidance in the transaction of its business. Items 2, 3 and 4 were referred for consideration to the Standing Committee on Missions. Item 5 was adopted, and the Classes and congregations were directed to comply with the request of the General Synod. For action on item 6, see Article XVIII., Sunday-schools. Items 7 and 10 were adopted. Item 8 was referred to the Standing Committee on Finance to apportion the amounts. On item 9 see Article XXI., Miscellaneous.

ARTICLE IX.

OVERTURES.

The Standing Committee on Overtures presented its report at intervals, which was received and acted on item by item, subsequently adopted as a whole, and is as follows:

The Committee on Overtures begs leave to report that the following papers have been placed in our hands for examination:

Item 1. A proposition from Mr. Daniel Miller of Reading, Pa., with regard to our Publication interests in Philadelphia, Pa.

Item 2. A communication from Rev. Charles G. Fisher amending his proposition made to the Board of Publication on the same subject.

Item 3. The action of the Pittsburgh Synod with reference to the propositions made to said Synod in regard to Publication interests, which we hold in common.

Item 4. A paper reciting the action of the Pittsburgh Synod in regard to the request of General Synod, having reference to Sunday-school papers and lessons.

Item 5. A statement of the workings, condition and wants of Bethany Orphans' Home at Womelsdorf, Pa.

Item 6. A similar communication from St. Paul's Orphans' Home at Butler, Pa.

Item 7. A communication from the Central Synod, giving its action in reference to the mission property at Tokio, Japan.

Item 8. A communication from the Pittsburgh Synod, reciting its action in reference to the Home Missionary work in our Church.

Item 9. A letter from the President of the Board of Trustees of Wichita University, thanking the Synod for the payment of its pledge of four thousand dollars towards the endowment of the Presidency of said institution, and also furnishing other important and interesting facts with reference to that institution.

Item 10. A copy of "The Origin of the Reformed Church in Germany, by Rev. James I. Good, D.D.," and published by Mr. Daniel Miller, of Reading, Pa.

Respectfully submitted,

J. O. MILLER, *Chairman.*

Items 1, 2, and 3 were referred for consideration to the Standing Committee on Publication. For the action of Synod on item 4, see Article XVIII., Sunday-schools; on items 5 and 6, see Article XXI., Miscellaneous. Items 7 and 8 were referred to the Standing Committee on Missions. Item 9 was referred to the Standing Committee on Education. Item 10. The thanks of the Synod were returned to the Publisher for the copy presented, and the volume was ordered to be placed in the library of Mercersburg College.

ARTICLE X.

MINUTES OF CLASSES.

The Standing Committee on the Minutes of Classes presented its report, during the session of Monday afternoon, which was received, disposed of item by item, amended and adopted as a whole. The report as adopted, is as follows :

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MINUTES OF CLASSES.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac :

Your Committee on Minutes of Classes begs leave to present the following report. The Minutes of all the Classes for the past year have been placed in our hands. From these the following items have been obtained :

I. IRREGULARITIES.

1. Juniata Classis failed to furnish the Synod with a complete copy of its Minutes, omitting those of a special meeting held last February.

2. The Classes of San Francisco and Portland-Oregon fail to state definitely the time of their next regular meeting, their Minutes not specifying the hour of meeting.

3. The Portland-Oregon Classis placed an elder on a committee to ordain a licentiate to the Gospel ministry.

4. The Stated Clerk of the Portland-Oregon Classis failed to furnish the copy of the Report on the State of Religion separate from the copy of the Minutes.

II. REQUESTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

5. The Maryland Classis asks Synod for co-operation in their missionary work in the city of Baltimore.

6. The same Classis requests the Synod to allow it to use within its own bounds whatever funds it can raise for Church Building purposes.

7. Portland-Oregon Classis asks to be exonerated from arrearages on back standing assessments, with a promise to do better in the future.

8. North Carolina Classis informs the Synod of its action in adding the \$75 arrearage, charged against it for Roanoke Mission, to its apportionment for Home Missions, and makes a demand for the \$500 voted to it at Hanover, in 1884, for its missionary work.

III. APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS.

None.

IV. SUBJECTS REFERRED TO THE CLASSES.

9. *Home Missions.* All the Classes accepted Synod's apportionments for this object.

10. *Church Building Fund.*—All the Classes accepted their apportionments for this object. In regard to the plan for Church Building Funds all the Classes adopted it, with the exception of the Mercersburg Classis, which referred the

matter to a special committee to report thereon at the next annual meeting of the Classis, and Zion's Classis, which does not view the subject at present as practicable, and therefore does not approve of the proposed plan.

11. *Theological Seminary*.—All the Classes accept their assessment for this object, with the exception of Zion's Classis, which refuses to do so.

12. *Mercersburg College*.—All the Classes accept their assessments for this object.

13. *Contingent Fund*.—All the Classes accept their assessments for this cause.

14. *Wichita College*.—All the Classes upon which apportionments were made for Wichita College accepted them, and made arrangements for their payment.

15. *Orphan Homes*.—All the Classes took favorable action toward this object, with the exception of the North Carolina, San Francisco and Portland-Oregon Classes.

16. *Society for the Relief of Ministers and their Widows*.—All the Classes took favorable action in this matter with the exception of the North Carolina, San Francisco and Portland-Oregon Classes.

17. *Children's Day*.—All the Classes took favorable action, except the San Francisco and Portland-Oregon Classes.

18. *Rule for the Election of Delegates to Synod*.—On this matter all the Classes took favorable action.

19. Zion's Classis declines to pay back-standing dues on Contingent Fund and Washington Mission Chapel account.

20. Mercersburg Classis consents to restore to John M. North the license it revoked in 1885, on condition that he be marked as *Disabled* on its records and Classical Roll.

V. LICENSED, ORDAINED, RECEIVED AND DISMISSED.

21. Zion's Classis received the licentiate, Oliver P. Schellhamer, from the Lehigh Classis, and ordained him; and dismissed Rev. Reinhart Smith to the German Philadelphia Classis, and Rev. Frederick J. Sauerber to the Emporia Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church.

22. Maryland Classis received the licentiate, James W. Myers, from the Virginia Classis, and ordained him; Rev. David P. Lefever from the Iowa Classis, and Rev. Samuel L. Whitmore from the Virginia Classis; and dismissed Rev. Ambrose C. Geary to the Gettysburg Classis, Rev. Andrew J. Heller to the Somerset Classis, and Rev. Adam S. Weber to the Wichita Classis.

23. Mercersburg Classis received Rev. J. David Miller from the Juniata Classis, and dismissed Rev. Jonas B. Shontz to the Tuscarawas Classis.

24. Virginia Classis dismissed the licentiate, James W. Myers, Revs. Samuel L. Whitmore and Barton R. Carnahan to the Maryland Classis, and Rev. Christian Gumbert to the Clarion Classis.

25. North Carolina Classis dismissed Rev. G. Dickie Gurley to Northern Illinois Classis.

26. Gettysburg Classis received Rev. Ambrose Geary from the Maryland Classis.

27. Carlisle Classis received the licentiates, Samuel S. Meyer from the Nebraska Classis, and Silas L. Messinger, from the Philadelphia Classis, and ordained them.

28. Juniata Classis received Rev. Joel W. Alspaeh from the Allegheny Classis, Rev. John W. Pontius, from St. Paul's Classis, and Rev. Charles W. E. Siegel from the Clarion Classis, and dismissed Rev. J. David Miller to the Mercersburg Classis.

29. Portland-Oregon Classis received Rev. John B. Braun from the Sheboygan Classis, and the licentiate, Adolph H. Bauman, from the Nebraska Classis, and ordained him; dismissed Rev. Hartmann Stauss to the Dubuque Presby-

tery of the Presbyterian Church, Rev. Albert Kreuter to the Evangelical Synod of North America, and deposed Alphonso J. Olinger from the Holy Ministry.

VI. PLACES AND TIMES OF THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE CLASSES.

30. Zion's Classis will meet in St. Paul's Church of the Paradise charge of York County, Pa., May 25th, A.D. 1888, at 7.30 o'clock, P. M. Rev. A. F. Dreisbach, *President*; Rev. I. S. Weisz, *Stated Clerk*; and Elder C. A. Shultz, *Treasurer*.

31. Maryland Classis will meet in St. Paul's Church of Union Bridge, Carroll County, Md., May 28th, A. D. 1888, at 7.30 o'clock, P. M. Rev. C. F. Sontag, *President*; and Rev. S. S. Miller, *Stated Clerk and Treasurer*.

32. Mercersburg Classis will meet in Shippensburg, Cumberland County, Pa., May 17th, A.D. 1888, at 7.30 o'clock, P. M. Rev. J. W. Knappenberger, *President*; and Rev. W. M. Deatrick, *Stated Clerk and Treasurer*.

33. Virginia Classis will meet at Shepherdstown, Jefferson County, W. Va., May 23rd, A.D. 1888, at 7.30 o'clock, P. M. Rev. A. K. Kline, *President*; Rev. B. R. Carnahan, *Stated Clerk*, and Rev. J. A. Hoffheins, *Treasurer*.

34. North Carolina Classis will meet in Mt. Carmel Church of the Lower Davidson charge, Davidson County, N. C., May 9th, A. D. 1888, at 11 o'clock, A. M. Rev. P. Barringer, *President*; Rev. G. W. Welker, *Stated Clerk*; and Rev. L. Reiter, *Treasurer*.

35. Gettysburg Classis will meet at Jefferson, York County, Pa., May 2nd, A.D. 1888, at 7.30 o'clock, P. M. Rev. J. C. Bowman, *President*; and Rev. W. K. Zieber, *Stated Clerk and Treasurer*.

36. Carlisle Classis will meet in St. Peter's Church of the Landisburg charge, Perry County, Pa., June 7th, A.D. 1888, at 7.30 o'clock, P. M. Rev. M. H. Groh, *President*; Rev. J. M. Mickly, *Stated Clerk*; and Rev. G. E. Addams, *Treasurer*.

37. Juniata Classis will meet at Mann's Choice, Bedford County, Pa., May 24th, A.D. 1888, at 7.30 o'clock, P. M. Rev. D. S. Dieffenbacher, *President*; Rev. D. G. Klein, *Stated Clerk*; and Rev. F. A. Rupley, *Treasurer*.

38. San Francisco Classis will meet in the Reformed Church of San Francisco, Cal., June 9th, 1888, at ——. Rev. T. G. De Lyre, *President*; Rev. J. Fuendeling, *Stated Clerk*; and Elder F. Joost, *Treasurer*.

39. Portland-Oregon Classis will meet at Seattle, Washington Territory, May 31st, A.D. 1888, at ——. Rev. J. Gantenbein, *President*; Rev. G. Graedel, *Stated Clerk*; and Elder J. A. Fischer, *Treasurer*.

Respectfully submitted,

J. D. MILLER, *Chairman*.

Items 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15, 17, 18 and 20 to 39 were severally adopted. In reference to the request contained in item 5, the following was adopted:

Resolved, That this Synod, recognizing the importance of mission work in Baltimore and of carrying it on more energetically, appropriates \$500 annually towards this object for a period of six years.

Resolved, That a committee of three from this Synod be appointed to act with the Baltimore Committee on Mission Work in Baltimore and the Committee of Maryland Classis, in carrying forward the work in that city and vicinity.

Through oversight, the committee called for in the foregoing resolution was not appointed.

The request in Item 6 was referred to the Tri-synodic Board of Missions.

The request in Item 7 was granted, and the Classis was relieved accordingly.

Items 11 and 19. Zion's Classis was earnestly enjoined anew to perform its duty, and pay its apportionments for the Theological Seminary and its arrearages on assessments for Contingent Fund and Washington Mission Chapel.

Item 14. The Classes of Zion, Juniata, Maryland, Carlisle and Mercersburg, yet in arrears in the payment of their apportionments for Wichita College, were instructed to take steps to pay immediately their respective arrearages.

Item 16. The action of last year was reiterated, namely :

Resolved, That the special attention of the several Classes be called to the claims of the Society for the Relief of Ministers and their Widows of the Reformed Church in the United States, and that they be requested to instruct all their pastors to lift one collection annually, at least, in each of their congregations, on some Sunday before October in each synodical year.

ARTICLE XI.

EXAMINATION, LICENSURE AND ORDINATION.

The Standing Committee on Examination, Licensure and Ordination reported as follows, which was received and adopted, to wit:

The Committee, on Examination, Licensure and Ordination reports that no applicants for examination were referred to the committee.

Respectfully submitted,

A. H. KREMER, *Chairman*.

ARTICLE XII.

STATE OF RELIGION AND STATISTICAL REPORTS.

The Standing Committee on the State of Religion and Statistical Reports submitted its report to the Synod during the session of Monday morning, which was received and adopted. The report is as follows, to wit:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE STATE OF RELIGION AND STATISTICS

Your Committee on the State of Religion and Statistics would respectfully report:

Your Committee have read carefully the reports on the state of religion of the several Classes of this Synod referred to them, and would seek to embody the facts there learned in their report to this venerable body. These reports speak of the general measure of health and strength, vouchsafed by the Great Head of the Church to the ministry of this Synod during the past year ; for which cause we should be thankful to the giver of all good. With some few exceptions the regular pastoral work has gone forward in all the charges in our bounds. The work of the Lord seems to have progressed quietly, and without any special demonstration in the legitimate order of our church-life. The gospel has been faithfully preached, the sacraments regularly administered, pastoral work has been crowned with success, the children gathered into the Sunday-school and the catechetical class, and when properly prepared, confirmed ; and under this legitimate order of the use of the means of grace, the blessing of

the Lord has crowned the labors of His servants with the ingathering of many precious souls into His kingdom.

Several new churches have been erected for God's worship, old ones repaired, and made more comfortable, and new congregations organized. There has been great zeal and activity displayed in the different departments of Church work. Especially, would we notice the increased interest in Sunday-school work. Conventions and the discussion of subjects connected with the Sunday-school and church work are generally held in all the Classes, thereby awaking and interesting the people in these worthy objects. Missions, home and foreign, are receiving greater attention and diffusing a new life in the church. Liberality and the spirit of benevolence have greatly increased, and made it possible for our different boards to carry forward their work on a larger scale. While there is much to encourage us in this view, yet the church is not responding to the full measure of its duty, nor to the increasing calls for help from our home missions and foreign fields. Yet, still, the success attendant on our humble labors should inspire us with new zeal, for greater aggressive work. True, there are difficulties, and scenes of sadness presented in our different fields of activity, reminding us, that in the earthly church we need not look for perfection, but which at the same time call for more earnest prayer and work, that the work of the Lord may go forward, and the Church of God withstand the forces of darkness brought against her.

While we are progressing, which we are glad to say, yet are we progressing as we should, are we keeping pace with the demand of the age, as fast as the population and world are in our midst? The world is growing in numbers, sin is growing in power, should not the church grow in measure to meet these new demands? While it is our aim to gather in the children of the church, and our own people who by right belong to us; yet we as a branch of the Church Catholic have a higher mission in trying to bring every soul to the feet of Jesus, that the kingdom of Christ may be established in the whole earth, and the world prepared for the coming of our Lord.

Within the past year many of our faithful workers in our church have ceased their labors, and have been called to their reward, and among them are some of our faithful elders, and three of our ministers, Revs. J. D. Zehring, M. L. Hittel and G. H. Martin, D.D., whose deaths will be properly noticed by another committee. These fresh graves of the year remind us of the time when we too, one by one, shall fall in the ranks of our Master's service. Our summary of statistics though not full, yet compares favorably with former years.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. GOODRICH, *Chairman.*

(For the Statistical Tables, See Appendix.)

ARTICLE XIII.

EDUCATION.

The Board of Education submitted its annual report to the Synod during the session of Thursday forenoon, which was received and then referred for consideration to the Standing Committee on Education. The Report is as follows:

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

Your Board of Education begs leave to present the following annual report for the fiscal and Synodical year just ended. At the close of the last annual

meeting of the Synod at Mercersburg, the members of the Board met and organized by the re-election of the old officers, namely: Rev. Wm. Goodrich as *President*, Rev. J. Wm. Knappenberger as *Secretary*, and Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick as *Treasurer* of the Board.

The operations of the Board have been conducted successfully during the past Synodical year. None of our beneficiary students have completed their training for the ministry since our last annual report. The names of those then reported—ten in number—have meanwhile been continued on our roll of beneficiary students. In the meantime Henry F. Dittmar, a graduate of Franklin and Marshall College last June, and now a member of the Junior Class in the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, has been enrolled as a beneficiary student of the Juniata Classis. Louis C. Summer, a student of Mercersburg College, has likewise been received under the care and supervision of the Board as a beneficiary student of the Mercersburg Classis, thus making the whole number twelve, instead of ten, as at our last report.

In addition to those received under the care of the Board, during the year, four or five others have applied for beneficiary assistance, whose application could not be favorably entertained in consequence of a lack of funds, and their reception has been postponed for the present, with the hope extended to them that they could be taken under the care of the Board during the coming year, and provision made for their support in prosecuting their studies for the work of the holy ministry. One of the young men just referred to has, however, been enabled to enter upon his studies in Mercersburg College through the aid extended to him by personal friends.

The young men reported last year as under the care and supervision of the Board, have meanwhile prosecuted their studies with commendable zeal, and have made encouraging progress.

There has been a small actual increase in the receipts of the Board over last year, amounting to \$66.46, after deducting the amount in the treasury at the beginning of the fiscal year, and also the interest on legacies and balance of Nicholas Gruber's legacy received, amounting in the aggregate to \$228.88; or, including the balance of the Gruber legacy, the increase is \$110.60. The amount in the treasury at this time is \$574.00. It will be noticed that the contributions come from only three of the Classes, the other Classes contributing nothing for this particular object, or sending their offerings to the cause elsewhere.

The treasurer thankfully acknowledges the reception of the following funds for this arm of Church work since our last annual report, omitting the dates of payments into the treasury, to wit:

SYNOPSIS OF TREASURER'S REPORT.

Maryland Classis.

Evangelical Reformed Church of Frederick, \$90.00; First Reformed Church of Hagerstown, \$65.00; Manchester Charge, \$62.31; First Reformed Church of Baltimore, \$60.00; Cavetown Charge, \$55.00; Third Reformed Church of Baltimore, \$50.00; Silver Run Charge, \$50.00; Middletown Church, \$42.75; Westminster Charge, \$35.00; Mount Moriah Charge, \$30.00; Jefferson Charge, \$27.00; Taneytown Church, \$25.00; Clear Spring Charge, \$22.61; Mechanics-town Charge \$20.00; Union Bridge Charge, \$20.00; Manor Charge, \$13.00; Mount Pleasant Charge, \$12.00; Boonsboro Charge, \$10.00; Glade Charge, \$9.00; Burkittsville Charge, \$8.00; Christ Church Charge of Hagerstown, \$5.00; Woodberry Mission, \$4.00; Grace Mission of Washington, D. C., \$4.00; and Fairview Church, \$2.25. Making, \$721.92.

Juniata Classis.

Balance of Nicholas Gruber legacy, \$44.14; Waterstreet Charge, \$44.00; St. Clairsville Charge, \$30.00; Martinsburg Charge, \$29.00; Bedford Church, \$29.00; Huntingdon Charge, \$28.00; Friends of Beneficiary Education, \$27.25; Friend's Cove Charge, \$25.00; Yellow Creek Charge, \$23.00; Dunning's Creek Charge, \$22.00; Schellsburg Charge, \$20.00; Everett Charge, \$19.00; Greenfield Charge, \$18.00; Altoona Church, \$16.00; Sulphur Spring Charge, \$10.00; Clear Ridge Charge, \$4.00; Orbisonia Charge, \$3.00; and one year's interest on Nicholas Gruber legacy, \$112.74. Making \$504.13.

Virginia Classis.

Per Treasurer of Classis \$240.00, and one year's interest of Absalom Rinker legacy \$60.00. Making \$300.00

Mercersburg Classis.

Per Treasurer of Synod one year's interest on Jacob Stoudenour legacy, \$12.00.

RECAPITULATION.

Summary of Receipts.

Balance in Treasury, at last report, October 5, 1886	\$547 74
Received from the Maryland Classis	721 92
“ “ Juniata Classis	504 13
“ “ Virginia Classis	300 00
“ “ Mercersburg Classis	12 00

Total receipts \$2085 79

Summary of Payments.

Paid to beneficiary students of the Maryland Classis	\$750 00
“ “ “ “ Juniata Classis	460 00
“ “ “ “ Virginia Classis	300 00
Postage and stationery	1 79

Total payments \$1511 79
 Balance in Treasury October 10, 1887 574 00

\$2085 79

Respectfully submitted by

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

We do hereby certify, that we have carefully compared and audited the account of Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, Treasurer of the Board of Education of the Synod of the Potomac, by vouchers, and find the same to be correct.

The foregoing synopsis of the Treasurer's Report, with the Recapitulation of the Summaries of Receipts and Payments, is a true and faithful statement of the same. We accordingly find the balance in the Treasury of the Board at this time to be \$574.00.

GEO. W. AUGHINBAUGH, }
 J. W. KNAPPENBERGER, } *Committee.*

Mercersburg, Pa., October 10, 1887.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF MERCERSBURG COLLEGE.

The Board of Regents of Mercersburg College presented their annual report to the Synod, during the session of Friday forenoon, which was

received and then referred to the Standing Committee on Education. The report is as follows:

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

The Board of Regents of Mercersburg College beg leave to lay before the Synod, for consideration, the following annual report, to wit:

The Board, at a meeting held at Mercersburg, at the close of the last annual meeting of Synod, was organized by the re-election of the officers of the previous year, namely: the undersigned as President, Rev. A. J. Heller as Secretary, and E. J. Bonbrake, Esq., as Treasurer. The Rev. A. J. Heller, having last spring removed into the bounds of the Pittsburgh Synod, tendered his resignation as a member of the Board, and it was accepted by the Board at our annual meeting at Mercersburg last June, and Wm. J. Zacharias, Esq., of Chambersburg, an Alumnus of the College, was appointed in his stead, and W. Rush Gillan, Esq., was chosen Secretary of the Board. The Executive Committee of the Board, as appointed a year ago, consists of the Officers of the Board *ex officio*, together with Rev. Wm. Goodrich and Elder A. R. Schnebly.

Since the last meeting of the Synod, the following sums on the pledges made for repairs, two years ago at the Synod of Chambersburg, have been received, namely: Rev. S. L. Whitmore \$20.00 in full, the larger portion of his pledge having been previously redeemed, as reported last year; Rev. G. A. Whitmore, \$25.00, amount of pledge in full; Rev. B. R. Carnahan \$10.00 in part; and Rev. S. C. Long in part; making \$60.00, and leaving unredeemed \$60.00, which is promised to be paid during the ensuing year. The sixty dollars thus received, when added to the amount reported, as received last year, makes an aggregate of \$905.00 of the whole sum pledged two years ago for repairs to the property of Mercersburg College.

Since our last report to the Synod, the Board had a new roof placed on the greater portion of the Preparatory Building, and the whole of the adjacent Professor House furnished with a new roof except that part, which was newly roofed less than three years ago. In addition, new roofs have in the meantime been placed on six out-buildings, and some painting and other necessary repairs have been made. There are still a few dollars on hand, all of which will be expended in painting, etc., before winter commences.

The educational work of the college has been carried forward by the Rev. Dr. Aughinbaugh and his corps of assistant teachers successfully during the year, without involving the Board in any expense, but without that amount of patronage, which is commensurate with the claims of Synod's institution. Had the membership of the Church within our Synodical bounds patronized the college as they should have done, and as could reasonably have been expected, a very considerable source of revenue would have resulted therefrom to the Board, with which to meet at least a portion of the debt incubus. Notwithstanding this failure to receive anything in the shape of income from the college itself, your Board has managed by means of rents and collections to cancel between six and seven hundred dollars of indebtedness, and thereby wiping out in full three of the old claims against the college, as reported to the Synod at Woodstock, Va., seven years ago, which then aggregated fully two thousand dollars.

The Board thankfully acknowledges the receipt from Synod's Treasurer of three hundred dollars towards meeting the interest on the mortgage and judgments resting upon Synod's property, as pledged a year ago, which has been expended for the purpose designated.

No portion of the sum pledged a year ago by the Synod towards cancelling the principal of the indebtedness of the college has yet been received. The

Board of Regents, at its annual meeting last June, agreed to accept the proposition of the Synod made at Mercersburg last October, to contribute or furnish five hundred dollars towards a sinking fund, to meet the indebtedness of the college, provided the Board of Regents, the Alumni, and friends of the institution would *bona fide* raise an equal amount for the same specific purpose. The Board appointed a committee to attend to this matter, and it is believed that the conditions will be fully complied with by the time the Synod's five hundred dollars will be ready to be paid over.

Your Board is happy to be able to report to the Synod, that at the opening of the present scholastic year of Franklin and Marshall College, last month, four of the students of Mercersburg College, who had prosecuted their studies for one or more years at Mercersburg were admitted to the Freshman Class of the former institution, and are now pursuing their studies there.

Respectfully submitted by order of the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College.
WM. M. DEATRICK, *President*.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF VISITORS OF THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.
To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

Respected Brethren: During the year commencing September 1, 1886, and ending with the anniversary of the Seminary in May last, there were *thirty-one* students connected with the institution; *six* in the *Senior class*, consisting of R. F. Gass, R. O'Boyle, Max Puhl, L. Robb, R. C. Schiedt and O. P. Steckel, Mr. Robb being absent; *Seven* in the middle class: J. S. Hartman, S. U. Mitman, J. F. Moyer, A. Noll, S. C. Stover, C. B. Schneder and E. Wagner; and in the *Junior class eighteen*: W. T. Aumann, J. T. Balliet, L. E. Coblentz, G. C. Erb, J. A. Herbst, A. M. Kifer, S. L. Krebs, R. N. Koplin, F. E. Lauffer, G. J. Lisberger, J. H. Mickley, C. A. Santee, O. F. Schaeffer, A. M. Schmidt, S. E. Stofflet, J. B. Stonesifer, G. B. Walbert and C. B. Weaver.

Of the new students admitted to the Junior class, thirteen were graduates of Franklin and Marshall College, and the other five were students or graduates of other literary institutions of a higher or lower grade. This is the largest class that has as yet been admitted into the Seminary at one time, and, as regards qualifications for theological study as well as regards Christian spirit, not inferior to any of its predecessors.

As usual, some of the students found it to be necessary to be absent from the Seminary a part of the time on account of the want of necessary funds. This is an evil that ought to be avoided, and the different Boards of Education should provide the young men under their care with the means to enable them to pursue their studies without interruption.

The Faculty and the Board are happy in stating that they are satisfied with the conduct of the students, with their progress in their studies, and the promise which they give of future usefulness. One of them, who had been suspended for a year, gave evidence of sincere repentance, and was restored to his place in his class.

The senior class, after having sustained a satisfactory examination in the presence of the Board, were dismissed and awarded the usual testimonial at the anniversary of the Seminary, in May last. One of the number, who had pursued a partial course in the Seminary, was awarded a testimonial testifying to this fact.

At the beginning of the year an arrangement was made by the Board, with a committee of the trustees of the college, by which the seminary and college students were supplied with instructions in elocution by a competent professor. As this kind of training was highly satisfactory to both institutions, this Board thinks that it should be continued during the coming year. The funds needed

to pay the teacher last year for his services were mostly raised by private efforts; but as this, probably, cannot be done in the future, the Board hereby asks the Synod of the United States to pay \$100, the Synod of Pittsburgh, \$75 and the Synod of the Potomac \$75 for this purpose, so far as the Seminary is concerned.

It is gratifying for us here to report that under the blessing of God, the Seminary, the hope of the future of the Church, has enjoyed another year of prosperity, and that its prospects of usefulness for the coming year are more than usually encouraging. It is eminently worthy of a larger endowment, as it needs an increase in its teaching force, which it is sincerely hoped it will receive through the efforts now being put forth for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

THEODORE APPEL, *Secretary.*

Lancaster, Pa., September 26, 1887.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Report of John B. Roth, Treasurer of the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church in the United States.

Amount of Endowment Fund, reported October 1, 1886, .	\$67,724 76
May 16, 1887, Received of D. B. Mauger, Treasurer Go-	
shenhoppen Classis,	50 00
May 31, 1887, Received of Chas. Santee, Esq.,	1,000 00
June 13, 1881, " Mrs. Anna M. Eyermann,	1,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$69,774 76
February 9, 1887, Less six shares of Reading Railroad	
stock charged at par value to Treasurer, viz.: \$50,	
delivered to Rev. Chas. G. Fisher, Treasurer Board	
of Beneficiary Education,	300 00
	<hr/>
	\$69,474.76

Current Expense Account.

DR.

October 1, 1886, For amount, balance due Theological	
Seminary,	\$789 69
September 20, 1887, For sundry interest, received to date, .	4,635 27
September 20, 1887, " amount of Aid Fund to date,	853 88
	<hr/>
	\$6,278.84

CR.

September 20, 1887, By salary and sundry bills paid to	
date as per vouchers presented to Seminary Board,	5,513 64
	<hr/>
September 20, 1887, Balance due Theological Seminary,	\$765 20
With sundry bills for Seminary repairs now in process, exceeding \$350 un-	
paid.	J. B. ROTH, <i>Treasurer.</i>

Library Fund.

September 20, 1887, The amount of the Fund is	\$2,069 96
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DR.

To sundry interests received from October 1, 1886, to Sep-	
tember 20, 1887,	\$139 19

CR.

September 20, 1887, By sundry bills paid to date, . . . 82 84

Due Library Fund, \$56 35

Smaltz Fund.

September 20, 1887, Amount of principal is, \$5,000 00

DR.

To interest received on same to date, \$275 00

CR.

By amount paid Rev. C. G. Fisher, treasurer of Beneficiary
Board of Education, \$275 00

Building Fund of Theological Seminary.

September 20, 1887, Amount of Fund is, \$12,883 05

Interest accounted for in current expense account of Theological Seminary.

Pittsburgh Professorship Fund

September 20, 1887, Pittsburgh Professorship Fund is, . . \$1,718 30

Interest accounted for in current expense account of Theological Seminary.

JOHN B. ROTH, *Treasurer of Theological Seminary, in account with Aid and Relief Fund.*

1886.

DR.

Oct. 1, To Cash from Lebanon Classis \$50 00

" 9, " " Tohickon " 51 00

" 21, " " Goshenhoppen Classis 30 00

Dec. 17, " " East Susquehanna Classis 27 00

1887.

Jan. 5, " " Lebanon Classis 7 00

" 18, " " Henry Wirt, Treasurer Potomac Synod 300 00

Mar. 17, " " Lebanon Classis 2 00

April 7, " " " " 5 00

" 21, " " East Susquehanna Classis 14 33

" 25, " " Goshenhoppen " 21 00

" 27, " " Westmoreland " 50 00

" 29, " " Lancaster " 55 00

May 13, " " East Susquehanna " 12 67

" 16, " " West Susquehanna " 34 88

" 26, " " Friends of Theological Seminary in
Philadelphia Classis 25 00

June 2, " " Rev. Stambaugh, Lebanon Classis . . . 1 00

" " " " " " 5 00

" 14, " " Church of the Ascension, Norristown . 15 00

Aug. 16, " " Sulphur Spring Charge 5 00

" 22, " " Tohickon Classis 42 00

Sept. 6, " " East Susquehanna Classis 121 00

\$853 88

CR.

September 20, 1887, By amount credited in Endowment Fund

account to Board \$853 88

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JOHN B. ROTH, *Treasurer.*

LANCASTER, Pa., September 22, 1887.

The undersigned auditing committee, having examined the Treasurer's account and compared vouchers, find the same correct.

GEORGE Z. KUNKEL, }
ISAAC H. KEEFER, } *Auditors.*

LANCASTER, September 22, 1887.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The Standing Committee on Education, to whom the foregoing reports had been referred, reported during the session of Friday afternoon, which was received, considered item by item, amended, and then adopted as a whole. The report, as adopted, is as follows:

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

The Committee on Education begs leave to submit the following report:

The following papers were referred by your reverend body to this committee for consideration, namely: the Report of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., the Report of the Board of Trustees of the same institution, together with a synopsis of the Treasurer's Report, the Report of the Board of Education of this Synod, the Report of the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College, and a letter from the President of the Board of Trustees of Wichita University.

The Report of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary gives us the gratifying information that the institution has enjoyed a year of prosperity. Thirty-one students were in the seminary during the past year, six of whom completed the course of study and were awarded the usual testimonial. An arrangement was made during the year with a committee of the Board of Trustees of Franklin and Marshall College, by which the theological and college students were supplied with instruction and training in elocution. The result was highly satisfactory, and met a long-felt want. The Board hopes that such a course of instruction will be continued, and therefore asks this Synod, inasmuch as the funds for the past year for this purpose were secured by private efforts, to make an appropriation of \$75.00 for this object.

The Report of the Board of Trustees informs us that there are at present forty students in the theological seminary, and that the institution is in a prosperous condition. They earnestly unite in the request that this Synod make the aforesaid appropriation for the support of an instructor in elocution; therefore,—

Resolved, That we accede to the request of these Boards, and that the amount of \$75 be referred to the Committee on Finance for apportionment.

The report of the Treasurer of the Theological Seminary shows that there was an increase to the endowment fund of \$1750. The income from various sources amounted to \$6,278.84; this includes \$853.88 from the Relief Fund, of which this Synod contributed \$305. The expenses were \$5513.64, leaving a balance in the treasurer's hands of \$765.20. This school of the prophets is eminently worthy of a much larger endowment, in order that its corps of instructors may be increased, and its usefulness enlarged; therefore,—

Resolved, That the pastors of this Synod be requested to do all in their power during the coming year to assist the Endowment Committee in raising the \$35,000, that at our next regular meeting of the Synod another professor may be elected to the Theological Seminary.

The Report of the Board of Education gives us the information that the operations of the Board were carried on with commendable success during the past year. At present there are twelve young men under its fostering care, who are pursuing their studies with commendable zeal. The receipts of the Board for the past year were \$2085.79, and expenditures \$1511.79, leaving a

balance on hand of \$574. The Board reveals the astonishing fact that only three of the Classes of this Synod, namely, Maryland, Juniata and Virginia, have contributed through it for this worthy cause of supporting young men for the gospel ministry. The Board laments that the application of five young men for assistance could not be favorably entertained in consequence of a lack of funds. Your committee rejoices to learn that there are a number of young men willing and ready to consecrate themselves to the preparation for the work of the gospel ministry as soon as means are provided, and would accordingly recommend the following action:

Resolved, That all the Classes of this Synod be urged to take measures to increase their contributions for Beneficiary Education, and that the Classes which have as yet neglected or refused to co-operate with the Board of Education, as regards the education of young men for the ministry, be requested and urged to comply with the instruction of the Synod.

Resolved, That inasmuch as five applicants have not been accepted by the Board of Education for lack of means, said Board make an immediate appeal to the different Classes to make provision for their support.

Resolved, further, That the Committee on Finance be instructed to apportion the sum of three thousand dollars upon the respective Classes for Beneficiary Education.

Your committee learns with pleasure, from the Report of the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College, that the educational work of the institution has been carried forward successfully during the year under the Rev. Dr. Aughinbaugh. A number of the buildings have undergone considerable repairs. The patronage of the institution, in comparison to what it should be, has been limited. The Board, however, from other sources, has been enabled to cancel a portion of its old indebtedness. We learn further from the report that the proposition of the Synod last year to raise \$500 for a sinking fund for the extinguishment of the debt of the college, on certain conditions, has been accepted, and the terms will be complied with. And now your committee, realizing that there is a growing demand for more vigorous and aggressive work in the cause of Christian education within the bounds of this Synod, would recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Synod learns with pleasure of the growing prosperity of Mercersburg College, and heartily commends this institution of the Synod, with all its advantages to students, to the generous patronage of all our pastors and the people under their care.

Resolved, That the Committee on Finance be directed to assess the amount of \$300 for interest on Mercersburg College debt upon the Classes, in order to meet the pledge given last year.

Resolved, That this Synod appropriate five hundred dollars to liquidate the debt resting on Mercersburg College, on condition that the Board of Regents secure a reduction of the indebtedness to a like amount, and that the Treasurer of Synod be instructed to withhold the payment of the same until he have evidence that said condition is complied with.

Resolved, That the Board of Regents be instructed to speedily collect the outstanding notes secured for the endowment of Mercersburg College, and that the principal be funded and securely invested as a permanent endowment fund.

WHEREAS, Mercersburg College, as we learn from the Report of the Board of Regents, has a limited number of students, and,—

WHEREAS, There are at Mercersburg College facilities and advantages not found elsewhere within the bounds of this Synod, therefore.—

Resolved, That the President of Mercersburg College be requested to canvass this Synod thoroughly and obtain thereby a larger number of students.

From a communication from the President of the Board of Trustees, we are informed that Wichita University of the Reformed Church in the United States has been chartered by the State of Kansas for a period of ninety-nine years, and that Rev. A. S. Weber entered upon his duties as President of the institution October 1st, 1887, and further that the amount of \$4000, pledged by this Synod for the endowment of the Presidency, has been paid; therefore,—

Resolved, That we have heard with delight the recognition of the fact that this Synod has paid its full apportionment of the \$15,000 for the endowment of the Presidency of Wichita University.

Resolved, further, That this Synod invokes the divine blessing upon this institution of the City of the West, and that we extend to our brethren engaged in the noble work of Christian education our heartfelt sympathy.

Resolved, That Thursday evening of the next meeting of the Synod be set apart for the discussion of the educational interests of the Synod, that the subjects to be discussed be limited to two, and the speakers to four, and that the subjects and order of discussion be arranged by the Board of Education.

Respectfully submitted,

J. T. ROSSITER, *Chairman*.

SYNODICAL PROFESSORSHIP ENDOWMENT.

The Synodical Professorship Endowment Committee presented the following annual report, which was received and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF THEOLOGICAL PROFESSORSHIP ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE.

Your Committee on the endowment of a Theological Professorship for this Synod submit the following report:

Three Synodical years have passed since the work committed to our hands was inaugurated. To some this may seem to indicate slow and discouraging progress. Such an inference would be just, if the raising of the endowment fund were the only interest involved. Your committee, however, having learned wisdom by experience, have cause to rejoice over the results already accomplished, and feel warranted in predicting far greater results in the future, as the outcome of the endowment movement. Even though we look not beyond the financial returns that may be counted in the treasury, there is cause for congratulation. But along with the financial returns have come to the Church, and are yet to come, richer gains. Our people and the Theological Seminary are being wedded as never before. The minds and hearts of young and old are being warmed into loving sympathy with our higher educational interests, and are coming to appreciate more fully the interdependent relation that holds between the membership of the Church and her literary and theological institutions. But better still, as one of the most important results of our endowment work, many sons are being directed to the Christian ministry, challenged and called to it by the needs of the Church as these are forcibly presented to their mind and conscience.

In view of the benefits that come to the people, and through them to the Church, by means of educational and endowment conventions held in the various charges, and by extending to all the members of the Church the opportunity to contribute to the endowment fund, we would recommend:

(1). The continuance of the aforesaid methods in the prosecution of our endowment work.

(2). That all the pastors are urged by this Synod to co-operate heartily with the committees in pressing forward this common interest.

(3). That Rev. C. J. Musser be appointed a member of the Endowment Committee, to assist in carrying forward the work in Juniata Classis; that Rev. E. R. Deatrick be appointed a member of the same committee, as assistant

for the Maryland Classis; Rev. A. F. Driesbach, for Zion's Classis; and Rev. J. M. Mickly, for Carlisle Classis.

During the past Synodical year, your Superintendent and Assistant-Superintendent, with the efficient help of pastors, have presented the endowment claim to twelve congregations, not including the work done in Virginia Valley.

An extensive canvas of Virginia Classis was conducted, during the month of August, by Rev. J. A. Hoffheins, assisted by the Superintendent and several pastors. Conventions were held in all the churches, and the sympathies and support of the people were very generally enlisted. Considering the fact that one-half of the charges are without pastors, we can more fully appreciate the good record which Virginia Classis has made for itself in the endowment work during the past year.

With the aggregate results of the past year your committee is highly gratified. Between \$4000 and \$5000 have been added to the fund, and this notwithstanding the temporary check given to the movement by the contribution of \$4000 of the Synod's money toward the endowment of the Wichita University. It was our hope at the beginning of the year to have secured by this time one-half of the proposed amount. Counting the cash in hand, the accumulated interest and the outstanding pledges, our hope has been realized.

In view of the fact that less than one-fourth of our territory has been canvassed (not including the Classes of North Carolina, San Francisco and Portland-Oregon, to which we do not look for help), it would indicate a lack of confidence in our ministry and people to ask whether the remaining half can be secured. We need but manifest by faithful work the unanimity and earnestness with which we adopted the endowment resolution in order to consummate the project in a comparatively short time.

Pastors, we beseech you to join with the Endowment Committee in devoting your time and money to the prosecution of a work the necessity for which we may not question—a work so full of promise and rich in blessing to the Church you love.

The expense incurred by your committee in carrying forward the work during the year amounts to \$59.98, which has been paid by the Treasurer.

A financial statement, with accompanying vouchers, is submitted to your Committee on Finance for audit.

Respectfully submitted in behalf of the Committee,

J. C. BOWMAN, *Chairman.*

The Board of Education, as instructed by the Synod of last year, arranged the programme for the educational meeting held on Thursday evening, which is found incorporated in the Report of the Committee on Religious Services.

Revs. E. R. Eschbach, J. C. Bowman and J. W. Santee were nominated as members of the Board of Visitors, and Elders Henry Wirt, Israel Laucks, H. Wirt Shriver, Edgar Slagle, Charles A. Shultz and Isaac H. Keefer, as members of the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., from this Synod, for the term of one year.

At the election for members of the different Boards of Synod, held during the session of Friday afternoon, Revs. S. S. Miller, W. C. Cremer and J. D. Miller were elected members of the Board of Education for the term of three years. At the same time Revs. W. M. Deatrick, T. F. Hoffmeier and B. R. Carnahan were elected members of the Board of

Regents of Mercersburg College, for the period of three years, and W. J. Zacharias, Esq., for two years.

The following individuals constitute the Board of Education and the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College, severally, at the present time, to wit:

BOARD OF EDUCATION: Revs. S. S. Miller, W. C. Cremer and J. D. Miller, for three years; Revs. W. M. Deatrick, J. W. Santee and J. S. Kieffer, for two years; and Revs W. Goodrich, J. W. Knappenberger, and elder J. Heyser, for one year.

BOARD OF REGENTS: Revs. W. M. Deatrick, T. F. Hoffmeier and B. R. Carnahan, for three years; Rev. S. S. Miller, Elder S. Hoefflich and W. J. Zacharias, Esq., for two years; and E. J. Bonbrake, Esq., Elder A. R. Schnebly and W. Rush Gillan, Esq., for one year.

ARTICLE XIV.

MISSIONS.

The Annual Reports of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions and of the Treasurer of said Board, the Report of the Superintendent of Missions, the Report of the Secretary of the Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions and items 2, 3 and 4 of Minutes of General Synod, and items 7 and 8 of the Report on Overtures were severally referred to the Standing Committee on Missions for consideration. The committee presented its report during the session of Monday forenoon, which was received, considered item by item, amended, and then adopted as a whole. As such, it will be found subjoined in its proper place. The several Reports are as follows:

REPORT OF TRI-SYNODIC BOARD.

To the Synod of the Potomac:

Rev. Fathers and Brethren: We herewith present for your consideration and action the annual reports of the Superintendent and Treasurer of the Board of Missions, asking such action on your part as shall best further the cause in which we are engaged.

J. O. MILLER, *President.*

W. H. H. SNYDER, *Secretary.*

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF MISSIONS FOR 1886-87.

To the Reverend Synods of Pittsburgh, of the Potomac, and of the United States:

DEAR BRETHREN:—I herewith present my Second Annual Report, the fourteenth of the series under the tri-synodic plan of co-operation, and I again refer you to the statistical table for much valuable information. Much that was said of the missions in the last report is still true, but need not be repeated.

OUR MISSIONS.

Abilene, Kansas.—Good progress. Church dedicated February, 1887, with but little debt. Their self-help deserves praise. Prospects very good. Abilene alone should have the pastor's whole time.

Albany, Oregon.—After four months work at Astoria, Rev. J. B. Braun was sent to Albany in April last; but only future self-denying labor can give any hope of success.

Bangor, Pa.—Some advance, but hindered by lack of unity and co-working.

Boulder, Iowa.—After quite a vacancy, Rev. W. E. Shaley began there March, 1887. Boulder and Brandon are 35 miles apart.

Chambersburg, Pa.—Rev. M. Z. Hittel took charge October 1st, 1886, but after ten months' work was called to his rest. The mission grew and prospered greatly.

Clearville, Pa.—Self-denying work among a scattered people. Two Missionary Societies organized. Many hindrances to progress.

Concord, N. C.—Progress slow but pastor is hopeful. Members pay liberally.

Du Bois, Pa.—Cannot expect rapid growth; but prospects are fair.

Duncannon, Pa.—Rev. S. S. Meyer commissioned December 1st, 1886. Considerable outlay for improvements at Marysville.

Dushore, Pa.—Most advance is in building a much-needed church at Dushore, and finishing one at Overton.

East Baltimore, Md.—Congregation organized in May last. Attendance 25. Need their own church. Prospects fair.

Easton, Pa.—Work well organized. People united. Additions encouraging.

Emporia, Kansas.—Rev. R. C. Zartman of Wooster, Ohio, is commissioned.

Harrisburg, Pa.—Besides paying on parsonage debt, about \$1.50 per member was given for benevolence, and half of this was for home missions.

Imogene, Iowa.—Vacant all the year. A fine opening, but where is the man?

Iola, Kansas.—Hard field 30 miles long. Prospects not bright. Many removals. Finances poor because crops have failed.

Johnstown, Pa.—Additions, finances and spirit of the mission are hopeful. Parsonage and better church needed.

Kansas City, Mo.—The fruit of twenty months work here is a congregation of 47 members and a good church costing \$5000 (with a debt only on the lot). The pastor did a great work and bore much self-denial. Prospects fair.

Lancaster, Pa.—Membership and contributions gradually increasing. Prospect encouraging. About fifty Germans, late of St. John's Church, Lancaster, have had regular service (paid for by themselves) without interfering with the established order of English service.

Lansdale, Pa.—Prospects very good.

Latrobe, Pa.—Bearing a financial burden, but making fair progress. Unity, liberality and co-working.

Leighton, Iowa.—Vacant all the year, but good prospects. A pastor will soon be commissioned.

Lisbon, Iowa.—Became a mission by the division of the charge. Rev. D. S. Fouse commissioned from January, 1887. Prospects very fair.

Liscomb, Iowa.—Vacant since April last. Active members.

Lock Haven, Pa.—Large additions. Debt finally paid. Church improved. People united and active. Country congregation is dying out.

Marietta, Pa.—Rev. D. B. Schneder left in June last, and Rev. S. F. Laury took charge in August.

McKeesport, Pa.—Over fifty added to the membership. Hopeful future.

Mt. Jackson, Va.—Great need of church and parsonage. Progress slow but safe.

Napa, Cal.—Of the small membership three-fourths are in the country. Finances embarrassing. Future doubtful.

New York, N. Y.—Aid given also by the German Board. The great event of the year was the dedication of the church. English Sunday-school in the morning, German in the afternoon. Finances hopeful. About two miles away pastor Fox has opened another mission to save many of his families, with German Sunday-school in the morning and English in the afternoon.

Orbisonia, Pa.—Vacant six months. Pastor Siegel took charge January, 1887. Not promising, but hard to strengthen by reconstruction.

Phoenixville, Pa.—Many signs of progress. Young people busy. Debt becoming smaller. Systematic giving in Sunday-school.

Reading, Pa.—Additions at Easter and Whitsuntide, 65. Missionary Society of 100 members organized. Active Aid Society. Finances good.

Salem, Oregon.—Pastor's support is largely from the parochial school. Slow progress, but faithful work.

San Francisco, Cal.—Rev. C. M. Schaaf left February last. Rev. C. F. A. Huebner has charge without appropriation.

Scottsdale, Pa.—Small growth for years, but a promising congregation has been organized at Bethany Station, strengthening the charge.

Seattle, W. T.—Membership small, but a nucleus and foundation for the future. Prospects are not to be measured by appearances of to-day.

Stafford, Oregon.—A year of sore trials, hence little progress. Weakened by removals. Pastor overworked for want of men. Tempted by calls to easier fields, but he stands faithful to the work in this outpost of the Church. Amid all hindrances fruit is seen.

Stockton, Cal.—Vacant since January last.

Timberville, Va.—Hard, slow work, but reasonably good prospects. Lately made vacant by the death of the pastor, Rev. Dr. G. H. Martin.

Washington, D. C.—Beyond statistics, nothing special to report. Slow progress but fair prospects. The congregation pays an average of \$11.00 per member.

West Philadelphia, Pa.—Good work. Gradual reduction of debt and appropriation shows progress.

West Union, Oregon.—Served part of the year by Rev. H. Liesman without appropriation. He has been commissioned from October 1st, 1887.

Wichita, Kan.—Lot paid and \$7,000 toward new church, which is under roof. Additions and finances encouraging. Pastor Love preached also at Cheney every two weeks. Members at Wichita, 40; at Cheney, 20.

Wilkinsburg, Pa.—Pastor Freeman took charge last November. Growing and prosperous.

Williamsport, Pa.—Slow but healthy progress. For interest, debt, current expenses and alms, the members averaged \$10 each.

Wilton, Iowa.—Growing audiences, larger Sunday-school and fair prospects.

Winchester, Va.—Smithfield was cut off last winter, to give Winchester more service. Toward the rebuilding of the church (whose walls are becoming unsafe) pastor Whitmore raised about \$800 by subscriptions payable monthly; but discouraged with the prospects he lately left the field.

Woodberry, Md.—A model mission. Self-helpful and prosperous. Many of the members attend catechization. Many *Messengers* (17) are taken. The alms average over \$2 per member, and congregational expenses average \$6 per member.

SUPERINTENDENT SHUEY.

Rev. D. B. Shuey spent the year supplying Emporia, Kan., working in the interest of Wichita University, organizing and supplying Topeka, Kan., visiting other missions and exploring various fields. In Ottawa County, about thirty miles from Abilene, Kan., he lately organized a congregation; and another at Nelson, Neb., whose future pastor can give due attention to surrounding important points. Lincoln, Neb., the capital of the State, should at once have a missionary. Rev. Frank Wetzel, President of Northern Illinois College, will in a few months take charge of Sioux City, Iowa.

OREGON.

In addition to the missions enrolled, Portland-Oregon Classis has several large mission fields without pastors: Astoria, Stella, Washugal, Sandy and others. In the lack of men, these must necessarily suffer, and after much care already given them it is a pity now to lose them.

OFF THE ROLL.

The following missions came off the roll during the year:—*Catasauqua, Pa.*, by self-support; *Glencoe, Pa.*, by reconstruction; *Houtzdale, Pa.*, as hopeless; also the missions around Lincoln, Neb., but we must have a man in the city; *Lincolnton, N. C.*, by self-support; *Mann's Choice, Pa.*, by self-support; *McConnellsburg, Pa.*, referred to Mercersburg Classis for sustentation; *Newton, N. C.*, by self-support; *Ridgely, Md.*, and *Wyoming, Del.*, by reconstruction; *Sharon, Pa.*, by self-support; *Stroudsburg, Pa.*, by self-support; *Tom's Brook* by self-support.

It must be noted that the statistical table omits all these, and hence does not fully show the work of the year. It gives only those that have been supported and are continued.

MISSIONS ENROLLED.

Albany, Oregon; Boulder, Iowa; Chambersburg, Pa.; East Baltimore, Md. At the late meeting of the Board the following were taken under our care:—Plymouth, Pa., Sioux City, Iowa, Hazleton, Pa., and Freeland, Pa.

WORTHY OF PRAISE.

It is just, also, to call attention to the self-helpfulness and large giving of many of our missions, as you may see by examining in detail the statistical table. Even the average is high. For congregational purposes our 4,500 communicant members paid \$30,000, an average of \$6.50 per member (the average for the whole Church is less than \$4.50); and for benevolence they paid \$2700, an average of about 60 cents per member (the average of the whole Church is but little more). Who will say these people are not helping themselves?

EDITORIAL WORK.

The *Reformed Missionary Herald* has been published during the year, and frequent missionary articles in the *Messenger* and *Sunday-School Treasury*.

SPECIAL CHURCH BUILDING FUNDS.

To encourage our people more largely to support this work and to secure the return of such monies, the Board of Missions has adopted the following plan for Special Church-building Funds:—

- 1) Each Fund shall be at least \$500.
- 2) It shall bear a distinct name, that of the giver or any other name he may choose, approved by the Board of Missions.
- 3) It shall be under the care and control of this Board.
- 4) It shall be held as a distinct Fund; but interest paid on it from time to time shall be used as the Board may see fit.
- 5) It shall be used only for the building of churches in missions under this Board.
- 6) No Fund and no part of any Fund shall be a gift to the mission; but the money shall always be loaned, on first mortgage, payable within ten years, in such instalments and at such rate of interest as may be agreed upon by the Board and the mission.

We gratefully report three such Funds already on hand, secured during the year. They bear the following names: The First Special Church-building Fund; The Virginia Classis Church-building Fund; The Emanuel's Church-building Fund of Hanover, Pa.

We ask the Synods to call the attention of the Classes to this plan, urging them to aid in increasing the number of such Special Funds.

OUR INCOME.

The income of the year has by no means been satisfactory, because far short of our needs. The Board asked for \$22,000 for missions, and received only

\$18,272, much less than what was needed; and \$5,000 for church-building, but received less than half this amount from the Classes. The large income of June includes the \$1442 legacy of Miss McClellan of Chambersburg, Pa. the monthly income is as follows:

	MISSIONS.	CHURCH-BUILDING.
Sept. 15th to Oct. 15th	\$ 563.00	\$ 278.79
Oct. 15th to Nov. 15th	1612.88	379.00
Nov. 15th to Dec. 15th	767.00	166.44
Dec. 15th to Jan. 15th	759.77	171.00
Jan. 15th to Feb. 15th	1045.32	695.79
Feb. 15th to Mar. 15th	924.76	260.06
Mar. 15th to April 15th	553.55	147.18
April 15th to May 15th	3576.84	282.63
May 15th to June 15th	2074.51	1669.74
June 15th to July 15th	757.86	3.00
July 15th to Aug. 15th	368.11	12.00
Aug. 15th to Sept. 20th	1471.41	510.00

In view of this fact, which is simply a repetition of old experiences, should we not seriously ask whether our present plan of benevolent finances is wise and good? Should we not seriously challenge even an old method that has always been unsatisfactory because of small results? In other words, if systematic getting of money is practical and effectual in the business of the world, would it not be thus also in the Lord's business?

URSINUS UNION.

Rev. F. W. Kremer, D.D., treasurer of Ursinus Union, reports that he paid out during the year \$1652.85, as follows:

St. Mark's Chapel, in Lebanon, Pa.	\$761.05
Rev. L. K. Derr, Reading, Pa.	150.00
Rev. Dr. J. Kuelling, Lancaster, Pa.	100.00
Mission Board of Ohio Synod	167.00
Grace Mission, Philadelphia	50.00
Kansas City Mission	40.00
Templeman Chapel	224.80
Rev. G. B. Seibel, Harrisburg	150.00
Rev. F. R. Schwedes	10.00

Total \$1652.85

He adds that the amount appropriated to the St. Mark's and Templeman Chapels was contributed by the First Church of Lebanon, within whose bounds these chapels are located.

THE AMOUNT NEEDED FOR THE COMING YEAR.

For the work of the coming year the Board respectfully asks the Synods again for \$22,000 for the support of the missionaries, and \$5,000 for church-building, as follows:

For Missions—Synod of the United States, \$12,000; Synod of Pittsburgh, \$4,500; Synod of the Potomac, \$5,500.

For Church-building—Synod of the United States, \$2,500; Synod of Pittsburgh, \$1,000; Synod of the Potomac, \$1,500.

In looking over the work of the year we find in the growth and prospects of our missions and in the spirit of our people reason for encouragement; and we hopefully commit our work to Him whose we are and whom we serve, praying for His blessing.

Respectfully submitted,

A. C. WHITMER,
Superintendent of Missions.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

To the Board of Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States :

I beg leave to present my Fourteenth Annual Report, showing the finances of the Board from September 15th, 1886, to September 20th, 1877. Moneys were received and disbursements made for Home Missions, Church-Building, Washington Mission, etc., as follows:

HOME MISSIONS.

Synod of the United States.

Received of the Classis of Philadelphia	\$320 68	
“ “ Tohickon	618 15	
“ “ Goshenhoppen	1126 84	
“ “ East Pennsylvania	1191 78	
“ “ Lebanon	561 68	
“ “ Schuylkill	1898 05	
“ “ Lancaster	875 50	
“ “ East Susquehanna	981 53	
“ “ West Susquehanna	922 50	
“ “ Lehigh	846 58	
Total from the Synod of the United States	—————	\$9,343 29

Synod of Pittsburgh.

Received from the Treasurer of Synod	\$1889 25	
“ “ Sundry sources	122 63	
Total from the Synod of Pittsburgh	—————	2,011 88

Synod of the Potomac.

Received of the Classis of Maryland	\$1518 65	
“ “ Mercersburg	684 04	
“ “ Juniata	963 72	
“ “ Carlisle	318 89	
“ “ Zion	55 50	
“ “ Gettysburg	531 67	
“ “ Virginia	369 33	
“ “ North Carolina	64 21	
“ “ Iowa	75 00	
“ “ Portland-Oregon	59 25	
“ “ San Francisco	39 75	
Total from the Synod of the Potomac	—————	4,680 01

Miscellaneous Sources.

Interest on Gruber Legacy	\$118 75	
Welker Legacy on account	106 00	
Uhler Legacy	950 00	
Sundry persons	16 00	
Balance in Treasury September 15th, 1886	1052 08	
Total from Miscellaneous Sources	—————	2,236 83
Total from all sources		\$18,272 01

Disbursements.

Orders of the Board paid during the year	\$15,259 06	
Orders paid by Treasurer Pittsburgh Synod	1,889 25	
Balance in Treasury September 20th, 1887	1,123 70	
Total	—————	\$18,272 01

CHURCH BUILDING.

Receipts.

Balance in Treasury September 15th, 1886.		\$533 11
Received for Abilene, Kansas.	\$407 27	
Received for Kansas City, Mo.	190 29	
Received for Wichita, Kansas.	368 00	
		<hr/>
		965 56
Received for Christ Church, Allentown, Pa.		400 00
Received from East Susquehanna Classis on Gelbach Claim .	\$48 00	
Received from Philadelphia " " " .	96 00	
		<hr/>
		144 00
Received from Miss McClellan Legacy		1442 06
Received for Wichita University		160 00
Received for Martha Memorial Church, New York		19 63
Received for First Special Church Building Fund.		500 00
Received from various classes and individuals		1117 51
		<hr/>
Total from all sources		\$5281 87

Disbursements.

Paid Christ Church, Allentown.	\$400 00	
Paid West Philadelphia Mission interests.	86 00	
Paid New York Mission interests	60 00	
Paid amount received for New York Mission	19 63	
Paid amount received for Wichita University.	160 00	
Paid for York Chapel.	225 00	
Paid interest on Kansas City loan.	67 50	
Paid amount received for First Special Church Building		
Fund	50 00	
Paid for Wichita Mission	440 00	
Paid for Kansas City Mission	190 29	
Paid for Abilene Mission.	417 27	
Total		<hr/>
		\$2115 69
Balance in Treasury September 20th, 1887:		
Gelbach Claim	\$144 00	
McClellan Legacy	1442 06	
First Special Church Building Fund.	500 00	
Virginia Classis Building Fund.	500 00	
Uhler Legacy	380 00	
Undesignated.	200 12	
		<hr/>
Total balance in Treasury		3166 18
		<hr/>
		\$5281 87

WASHINGTON MISSION FUND.

Balance in Treasury September 15th, 1886.	\$33 00	
Received from East Pennsylvania Classis.	172 68	
Total for Washington Mission		<hr/>
		\$205 68

CR.

By amount paid Mrs. A. V. L. Miller	205 68
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Respectfully Submitted,

WM. H. SEIBERT, *Treasurer.*

We, the undersigned, a committee appointed by the Board of Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States to audit the account of Wm. H. Seibert, Treasurer of said Board, respectfully report that we have attended to the duty enjoined upon us, and find the Treasurer's account correct, with balances in the several funds as stated therein, namely,—

For Missions	\$1123 70
For Church Building	3166 18
	C. R. DIEFFENBACHER.
	D. S. KELLER.
	J. M. SCHICK.

Addendum to Treasurer's report :

In addition to the receipts acknowledged in the body of the report, the treasurer acknowledges the receipt of \$500 for a third Special Church Building Fund from Emanuel's Reformed Church, of Hanover, Pa.

TO THE SYNOD OF THE POTOMAC OF THE REFORMED CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES.

Dear Fathers and Brethren : In the providence of God it becomes my duty to transmit to your reverend body a report of the progress and prospects of our Mission in Japan. The hand that wrote the last annual report is silent in death, and the whole Church mourns the loss of the late efficient Secretary.

You will pardon my reference to a coincidence which to me is remarkable, since I have been chosen the successor of dear Dr. Johnston. By a singular providence, I was the last friend to visit this good brother before he died. I felt that the place was holy, for the angels were already waiting to bear his spirit into the home of the blest. When I bade him the final farewell, he gave me his usual blessing at parting—"The Lord be with you."

And now, I pray God, that his mantle may have fallen on me, *then and there*.

It is very difficult to furnish an accurate report of the constantly-growing work in Japan. The experiences are so varied that a new statement becomes needful every day.

The little tract, which I enclose for your consideration, will give you some idea of our present interests in Japan. Our Church has done a great and noble work there in a short time. Let us thank the Lord for it.

The Board feels the importance of increasing our present force in order to reap a large harvest of souls in that heathen empire. Time is precious everywhere, but it is especially precious in Japan. We cannot tell what a day may bring forth. We have met an urgent demand by establishing a Girls' School at Sendai, but we need the proper buildings to carry out our grand project.

In a recent letter, one of the lady teachers, Miss Lizzie R. Poorbaugh, writes: "Only yesterday I was told, on good authority, that the Educational Department of the Government is only waiting to give us a chance, and that if we do not improve our chance at an early day, a government school for girls will be opened. Such an event would work a complete change in our affairs."

I fear if the government will start a rival school at Sendai, it will impede our mission work.

My dear Brethren : God's kingdom will come in Japan, as it has come in America, but whether we, as a Church, will receive the blessing from the Lord for its coming, depends upon a right use of our golden opportunities.

It seems to me our Church cannot withdraw from, and will not tarry in, the present conflict of light against darkness among that interesting and promising people.

Japan is on the eve of a mighty change. There is no other nation in the wide, wide world that bids so fair to enlist itself under the crimson banner of King

Emmanuel, Japan is ripe for the Christian religion. Souls hunger for the bread of life. Crowds gather even in theatres to hear the preachers of the Word. Delay to supply them with the Gospel is dangerous. *Do we realize our solemn responsibility? Will we help to make Japan a Christian nation?*

Let me earnestly commend the glorious cause which our senior missionary, the Rev. A. D. Gring, will present to you at this meeting. He, a "beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord," will "make known to you all things; whom" we have sent unto you for the same purpose, that ye might know our affairs, and that he might comfort your hearts.

May his presence among you feed the sacred flame of love for missions in your hearts.

Thanking you for your liberality in the past, and believing that you will abound in this grace also in the future, we commit our Foreign cause to the Lord, to whom be all the glory.

Affectionately, Yours,

A. R. BARTHOLOMEW, *Secretary.*

Pottsville, October 12, 1887.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

Your Committee on Missions begs leave to present the following report: There were referred to your Committee the Report of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, the Superintendent's Report, the Treasurer's Report, the Report of the Secretary of the Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, overtures from the Pittsburgh and Central Synods, a letter from the Secretary of the Tri Synodic Board, and several items from the Minutes of the Synod and General Synod.

HOME MISSIONS.

From the Report of the Superintendent of the Tri-Synodic Board we find there are fifty missions under the care of the Board, seven of which are vacant. Twelve missions were taken off the roll during the year; most of these because they have become self-supporting. We notice further, that the missions themselves contribute liberally for local purposes and for benevolence as well. We are pleased to mark this spirit of self-help. The growth of the missions has been for the most part satisfactory. There should be no nervous anxiety on this point. We ought to be slow to complain, slow to raise up the seed to see if it is alive. Let it alone, only plant and water. We appreciate the trials of the missionaries and the difficulties under which they labor. None can tell how precious in the sight of the Master are their sacrifices. Nor can any one tell the good they are doing. Let us encourage the Board, the Superintendent and the missionaries. The churches having done the work of ministering to the poor, and having gone after the scattered sheep, can rest in the consciousness of duty done, if only it be well done. We need not ask, Does it pay? We are not the paymasters. There has been a steady increase of interest in the work of missions; a steady increase in contributions too. This is now our part of the work, not the missionaries; and we may, therefore, look a little closer into this. The Board asked last year for \$22,000 for the missions, and received only \$18,272 in all; and for \$5000 for Church Building, and received less than \$2000. The Classes do not come up fully to the work—not all, only Mercersburg, Maryland and Juniata Classes have paid their apportionments in full, and these have overpaid. Freely, that is, without money and without price, ye have received; freely give. When it is said, The poor have the gospel preached unto them, then shall it be known that the Christ is come into our midst. If the pastors and elders will lead the people in systematic giving, the people will not come up empty before the Lord.

We are glad to report three Special Church Building Funds on hand, namely: The First Special Church Building Fund, The Virginia Classis Church Building Fund, and The Emmanuel Church Building Fund of Hanover. May these provoke others to good works.

The Board asks again for \$22,000 for the support of the missions and \$5000 for church building; from this Synod \$5,500 for the missions and \$1500 for church building.

The Secretary of the Tri-Synodic Board informs us of a proposed transfer of our missions on the Pacific Coast to either the Board of the Synod of the Northwest and Central Synod, or to the Board of the German Synod of the East, upon the following terms: (a) This Board to contribute the annual sum of \$2000 towards the support of said missions for the term of three years, said sum to be paid into the treasury of the accepting Board in quarterly payments of \$500 each. (b) That any trust fund which the Board has invested in the missions shall be secured to their original objects.

The Pittsburgh Synod, in response to a request of the General Synod to the District Synods to carry on their home mission work in such manner as to open the way for the unification of our missionary operations under the Board of the General Synod, invites us to unite with it and the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States in dissolving the Tri-Synodic Board, and further unite with said Synods in an overture to the General Synod, at its next meeting, to have our missions brought under the management of the General Synod's Board as soon as that Board is prepared to assume such management.

Items taken from the Minutes of the General Synod and referred to us, call our attention to the constitutional requirement that the District Synods confine their missionary operations to their own territory, and request us to confine our operations accordingly.

The Central Synod invites us to join with them in a request to the Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, asking said Board: 1st. To hold annual instead of triennial meetings of the Board. 2d. Not to sell the property of the mission in the city of Tokio, Japan.

The work of Foreign Missions, under the providence of God, and through the liberalities of the churches, the efficient labor of the missionaries, and the good management of the Board, has been very successfully prosecuted. The Secretary of the Board reports to us that the constantly-growing work is of such a varied interest that a new statement becomes needful every day. An appeal presented by the Executive Committee of the Board states the present condition of the work, showing that we have now three male and two female missionaries, three native preachers, six evangelists, fourteen congregations and stations, and a membership of 705; that a school for girls and a theological school for young men are in successful operation; that through the liberality of the Rev. Dr. J. I. Swander and wife two acres of land in the city of Sendai have been secured. Thus our work grows. What has been done has more than fulfilled expectations. For what has been achieved and for what is open to us we should be truly grateful to Him toward whose coming again to His Church we are now hastening. The Board now states to us that the call is upon us for advanced work. Rev. J. P. Moore enters a boys' school at Yamagata to teach three hours per day, to establish a congregation, and regularly preach the gospel there. Rev. D. B. Schneder is elected as our fourth missionary to Japan. It is further stated by the Board that it deems it an absolute necessity at present to erect three structures on the ground lately purchased in Sendai. That we need these buildings is not a question. One of the most promising features of our foreign work has been the establishing of schools both for boys and girls, and particularly for the education of young men of the Japanese

people to preach the gospel to their own brethren. We are pleased to see how soon the gospel is preached by natives. This work is most important. It cannot be over-estimated.

It is to be seen from what financial statement we have, that there is no money in the treasury for current expenses. Some of the moneys on hand are designated for particular objects. Others are bequests, the interests of which only can be used. The policy of the Board has been, and it is a wise one, to advance as the Church supports them. If they call on us, there should be an advance all along the line. The details of the present needs of our foreign work from different sources are open to all. But let us understand this, that this is the Day of the Lord—our time of probation. The Lord calls us. *Now* is the time for heroic effort—now is the time for sacrifice. What we do to-day is worth a hundredfold more than anything we can do ten years after this. Let every true son of the Church pray the Lord of the harvest, that He may give us grace and strength to do what we ought.

It is with pleasure that we greet our senior missionary, Rev. A. D. Gring, returned to us after an absence of eight years. We have waited long for the day when one of our own missionaries could stand before us and tell what God had been doing through him and us among the heathen. We bespeak for him a most cordial welcome in all our churches, and feel that his presentation in person of the needs of our foreign work will meet with a hearty response.

In concluding this part of our report, we remember our now sainted brother, Rev. Dr. Johnston. He was a profitable servant among us, and when we thought him but fully informed and equipped for his work, the Master called him. He had need of him, and prepared him for the change by keeping him in this work to the end. As a Church, may the Lord likewise glorify His name in us, and fit us for Himself by leading us on in this divine work of preaching the gospel to the heathen.

We recommend the following for adoption :

Resolved, That this Synod accepts the sum of \$5500 for Home Missions and \$1500 for Church Building for the ensuing year, and that said amounts be referred to the Committee on Finance for apportionment among the several Classes.

Resolved, That we do again most earnestly commend the cause of both Home and Foreign Missions to the prayers and liberality of the Classes, pastors, congregations, missionary societies and Sunday-schools of the Classes.

Resolved, That the Classes be kindly urged to pay their apportionments in full, and that they be requested to increase their contributions.

Resolved, That this Synod ask the Tri-Synodic Board to take such steps as may in the end lead to the unification of our Home Missionary operations under the General Synod's Board.

Resolved, That the Synod endorses the action of the Tri-Synodic Board in its proposed transfer of our missions on the Pacific Coast to one or the other of the German Synods' Boards.

Resolved, That, in as much as the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions is much impeded in extending its operations into new and promising fields by having under its care several missions of already long standing, and giving little hope of becoming self-supporting for many years to come, the Synod requests the Classes, within whose bounds these missions are, to take care of the same, either by reconstruction to make them self-supporting, or provide for them in the way of sustentation, or dispose of them otherwise so as to relieve the Board.

Resolved, That the question whether the Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions shall hold annual instead of triennial meetings be left to the judgment of said Board.

Resolved, That we unite with the Central Synod in asking the Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions not to sell the buildings of the mission in Tokio.

Resolved, That it is with pleasure we learn of the continued and increased success of our missionary operations in Japan, and particularly of the establishing of schools and the training of native young men for preaching the gospel.

Resolved, That the pastors, consistories, missionary societies and Sunday-schools be requested to send at once to the Treasurer of Foreign Missions such sums of money as they have on hand for the general work of Foreign Missions.

Resolved, That we commend the plan of Missionary Gring, recommended by the Board, to have congregations, missionary societies, and Sunday-schools, or individuals to furnish memorial windows, memorial rooms, in the proposed buildings at Sendai, or support individual students in the Girls' School, or in the Theological Seminary for young men—this work not to interfere at all with the regular contributions for the support of the missionaries and evangelists.

Resolved, That the pastors of this Synod be urgently requested to present the claims of our Foreign Mission work to their respective charges on or before the first Sunday in January, 1888.

Resolved, That liberal contributions be solicited from every congregation, missionary society and Sunday-school within the bounds of this Synod, on some Sunday before January 1st, 1888, with a view to secure funds to be used by the Board for advanced work.

Resolved, That a copy of this action be sent by the Corresponding Secretary as soon as possible to every pastor, or, in case of vacancy, to the consistory of every charge of this Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

C. J. MUSSER, *Chairman*.

Rev. A. D. Gring made certain statements in regard to the missionary operations of the Reformed Church in Japan, and especially of the increased need of laborers in our mission field in Northern Japan, when pledges amounting to between five and six hundred dollars were quickly made towards sending an additional missionary to Sendai, Japan, as soon as the Board shall elect and commission one. The following resolution was adopted in this connection :

Resolved, That the Corresponding Secretary prepare a circular letter, stating what has been done, and send it to such pastors of the Synod as have not made specific pledges for this object, requesting them to make what pledges they can.

At the election for members of the different Boards, Rev. L. Reiter was elected a member of the Synodic Board of Missions for the period of four years.

MEMBERS OF THE SYNODIC BOARD OF MISSIONS AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Rev. L. Reiter for four years ; Revs. J. O. Miller and J. A. Hoffheins for three years ; Revs. T. J. Barkley and J. C. Bowman for two years ; and Revs. E. R. Eschbach and E. N. Kremer for one year.

ARTICLE XV.

FINANCE.

The Annual Report of the Treasurer of Synod for the past year was presented to the Synod, read, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Finance for the purpose of being audited. The Report is as follows :

HENRY WIRT, *Treasurer, in account with the Synod of the Potomac.*

DR.

1886.							
Oct. 16.	To cash from M. E. Doll, former Treasurer . . .				\$1156	26	
Oct. 11.	Collection at Missionary Meeting, Synod of Mer-						
	cersburg					13	14
Oct. 26.	Virginia Classis for College at Wichita	\$50	00				
1887.							
Mar. 15.	" " " "	15	00				
"	" " " "	92	75				
Mar. 29.	" " " "	162	25	320	00		
Aug. 16.	" " for Contingent Fund			45	00		
1886.							
Nov. 12.	Zion's Classis, General Synod Contingent Fund .	9	41				
"	" " Harbor Missions	4	69				
"	" " Mercersburg College	8	41	22	51		
1887.							
April 30.	" " Washington Mission	1	75				
"	" " Harbor Missions	2	00				
"	" " Mercersburg College (old)	3	25	7	00		
May 13.	" " Contingent Fund (old)	83					
"	" " Harbor Missions	2	62				
"	" " Mercersburg College	4	26	7	71		
April 30.	" " College at Wichita	20	00				
June 30.	" " " "	44	00	64	00		
Oct. 3.	" " Contingent Fund	23	27				
Oct. 4.	" " " "	10	73				
Oct. 8.	" " " "	7	45	41	45		
Jan. 25.	Carlisle Classis on Contingent Fund	16	00				
April 7.	" " " "	6	00				
April 16.	" " " "	12	00				
May 3.	" " " "	44	00				
Aug. 16.	" " " "	5	00	83	00		
Mar. 7.	" " Wichita College	67	50				
April 23.	" " " "	60	00				
May 11.	" " " "	20	25				
"	" " " "	15	00	162	75		
Mar. 25.	Mercersburg Classis, Wichita College	61	00				
Mar. 31.	" " " "	210	00				
May 3.	" " " "	60	00	331	00		
May 13.	" " Contingent Fund			45	00		
Aug. 27.	" " Mercersburg College			90	00		
"	" " Theological Seminary			40	00		
Mar. 27.	Juniata Classis, Wichita College	75	00				
Mar. 30.	" " " "	106	00				
April 1.	" " " "	37	35				
April 5.	" " " "	27	00				
May 27.	" " " "	78	25				
June 8.	" " " "	55	61				
Aug. 1.	" " " "	3	25				
May 17.	" " " "	30	00	412	46		
May 5.	" " Repairs of Mercersburg College .			62	00		
May 13.	" " Theological Seminary			50	00		
Sept. 10.	" " Contingent Fund			60	00		

Sept. 10.	Juniata Classis	Mercersburg College		50 00	
"	"	"	" (old)	18 00	
Mar. 29.	Maryland Classis, for	College at Wichita	375 66		
Mar. 30.	"	"	30 00		
April 16.	"	"	40 41		
April 19.	"	"	110 00		
May 11.	"	"	62 00		
Oct. 7.	"	"	154 59	772 66	
June 29.	"	Contingent Fund		125 00	
July 1.	Gettysburg Classis, for	College at Wichita	235 00		
Aug. 15.	"	"	140 00		
Oct. 7.	"	"	345 00	720 00	
July 1.	"	Contingent Fund		60 00	
Oct. 3.	"	Theological Seminary		50 00	
"	"	Mercersburg College		125 00	
June 30.	To Loan made for use of	Synod by Dr. J. O. Mil-			
	ler and others at four months		1600 00		
	Less discount for four months		33 33	1566 67	
Total Receipts				\$6500 61	

CR. EXPENDITURES.

1886.					
Oct. 11.	D. B. Shuey, Collection at Syn. of	Mercersburg	\$13 14		
"	J. David Miller, Reporter, Expenses		1 09		
"	Rev. J. W. Knappenberger, Expenses at Meeting	of Synod	25 00		
Oct. 20.	Rev. J. C. Bowman, Expenses as Superintendent	of Endowment Committee	24 10		
Dec. 12.	Reformed Pub. Board, printing Minutes		172 63		
"	Rev. W. M. Deatrick, Postage, Stationery and	Freight	10 00		
"	Rev. W. M. Deatrick, Treasurer Board of Educa-	cation, Int. due Dec. 15th on Stoudenour Legacy	12 00		
"	Charles Santee, for Harbor Missions		9 89		
1887.					
Jan. 17.	John B. Roth, for Theological Seminary		300 00		
Feb. 3.	C. G. Gross, Treasurer General Synod, for Contin-	gent Assessment	345 00		
Mar. 8.	I. H. Keefer, Expenses in attending Meeting of	Board of Trustees of Seminary at Lancaster	9 36		
Mar. 30.	By Amt. sent Rev. D. B. Shuey for Wichita Col'ge		1000 00		
Mar. 31.	Rev. W. M. Deatrick, Salary as Stated Clerk		100 00		
May 5.	Rev. D. B. Shuey, for College at Wichita		600 00		
May 24.	Rev. A. H. Kremer, D.D., Expenses to Board of	Trustees at Lancaster, Pa.	2 92		
June 29.	Rev. S. S. Miller, Expenses to Meeting of Board of	Regents of Mercersburg College	2 85		
June 30.	Mrs. A. V. L. Miller, balance due on Note, with	Interest	186 68		
July 1.	Rev. D. B. Shuey, for College at Wichita in full		2400 00		
July 25.	Rev. G. E. Addams, two years' Interest on Brech-	bill Legacy, due April 10, 1887, for Churchtown			
	Congregation		24 00		

Aug. 27.	Rev. W. M. Deatrick, for Mercersburg College	90 00	
Sept. 22.	" " " "	145 00	
Sept. 30.	" " " "	65 00	
			<hr/>
Total Expenditures			\$5538 66
Balance in Treasurer's hands			961 95
			<hr/>
			\$6500 61

The following Classes are in arrears on the assessments made by the Synod of Mercersburg, 1886:

<i>Virginia Classis</i> —Theological Seminary	\$40 00	
Mercersburg College	90 00	\$130 00
<i>Zion's Classis</i> —Wichita College	416 00	
Contingent Fund	3 55	
Theological Seminary	40 00	
Mercersburg College	85 00	544 55
<i>Carlisle Classis</i> —Wichita College	157 25	
Theological Seminary	40 00	
Mercersburg College	85 00	282 25
<i>Mercersburg Classis</i> —Wichita College		149 00
<i>Juniata Classis</i> —Wichita College	307 54	
Mercersburg College	50 00	357 54
<i>Maryland Classis</i> —Wichita College	267 34	
Mercersburg College	250 00	
Theological Seminary	80 00	597 34
<i>North Carolina Classis</i> —Contingent Fund		45 00

Theological Seminary Professorship Endowment Account.

1887.

DR.

To cash received from Rev. J. C. Bowman, contributed by the following charges:

<i>Virginia Classis</i> —Lovettsville	130 00	
Martinsburg	717 50	
Woodstock	197 35	
Edinburg, Timberville, Woodstock & others	242 10	\$1286 95
<i>Zion's Classis</i> —Trinity Church, York		1010 00
<i>Maryland Classis</i> —Frederick City	210 00	
Silver Run	286 50	
Hagerstown	159 00	
Woodbury	131 30	
Glade	44 00	830 80
<i>Juniata Classis</i> —Huntingdon	2 50	
St. Clairsville	396 75	399 25
<i>Mercersburg Classis</i> —London	44 97	
Greencastle	31 00	
Chambersburg	156 00	
Waynesboro'	16 25	248 22
<i>Gettysburg Classis</i> —Hanover		400 00
L. H. Diehl, Illinois		100 00

Total amount collected during the year	\$4275 22
To Cash for Mortgage W. D. Hughes, paid	770 00
“ “ “ Interest received on Loans	822 58
“ “ from M. E. Doll, former Treasurer	3387 80
	<hr/>
Total Receipts	\$9255 60

CR. EXPENDITURES.

1886.					
Oct. 23.	By cash for Mortgage,	Kellam	. . . . .	\$3000	00
Nov. 27.	"	Erich	. . . . .	700	00
1887.					
April 8.	"	Rommel	. . . . .	1300	00
April 19.	"	Korn	. . . . .	750	00
April 29.	"	Loan, Grove	. . . . .	1750	00
July 7.	"	Mortgage, Tyler	. . . . .	600	00
	By cash paid Endowment Committee for Trav-				
	eling and other Expenses		. . . . .	54	98
	Balance in hands of Treasurer		. . . . .	1100	62
				<hr/>	<hr/>
				\$9255	60

The Endowment Fund is invested in first mortgages on property in Maryland and Kansas, and are all believed to be first-class securities. Of the amount, \$7050 bears 6 per cent. interest, \$6800 7 per cent. and \$1750 5 per cent., making the total amount invested \$15,600 00
 Which, with cash on hand of 1,100 62

 Makes net amount of fund \$16,700 62

All of which is respectfully submitted.

HY. WIRT, *Treasurer.*

Hanover, Pa., October 12, 1887.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

The Standing Committee on Finance submitted its report, during the session of Monday evening, which was received, amended, and adopted. The Report, as adopted, is as follows :

Reverend Fathers and Brethren :

Your Committee on Finance begs leave to submit the following report :

We have carefully audited the Treasurer's Report, including that of the Theological Professorship Endowment Committee, comparing them with the vouchers, and find them correct. Excepting the assessment of the General Synod upon this Synod for contingent expenses, of which we have assessed only the half for the present year, leaving the other half to be assessed next year, we have assessed and apportioned the various sums referred to the Committee upon the several Classes as follows, to wit :

Apportionment for Home Missions.

Maryland Classis \$1450, Juniata Classis \$900, Gettysburg Classis \$900, Mercersburg Classis \$550, Zion's Classis \$550, Virginia Classis \$450, Carlisle Classis \$450, North Carolina Classis \$225, Portland-Oregon Classis \$50, and San Francisco Classis \$50 ; making \$5575.

Apportionment for Church Building.

Maryland Classis \$360, Juniata Classis \$225, Gettysburg Classis \$225, Mercersburg Classis \$180, Zion's Classis \$180, Virginia Classis \$150, Carlisle Classis \$150, and North Carolina Classis \$60 ; making \$1530.

Apportionment for Church Extension in Baltimore.

Maryland Classis \$120, Juniata Classis \$75, Gettysburg Classis \$75, Mercersburg Classis \$60, Zion's Classis \$60, Carlisle Classis \$60, Virginia Classis \$50, and North Carolina Classis \$20 ; making \$520.

Apportionment for Harbor Missions.

Maryland Classis \$100, Juniata Classis \$50, Gettysburg Classis \$50, Mercersburg Classis \$35, Zion's Classis \$35, Virginia Classis \$35, Carlisle Classis \$35, and North Carolina Classis \$10 ; making \$350.

Apportionment for Bohemian Church.

Maryland Classis \$36, Juniata Classis \$20, Gettysburg Classis \$20, Mercersburg Classis \$15, Zion's Classis \$15, Carlisle Classis \$15, Virginia Classis \$10, San Francisco Classis \$2, and Portland-Oregon Classis \$2 ; making \$140.

Apportionment for Beneficiary Education.

Maryland Classis \$900, Juniata Classis \$550, Gettysburg Classis \$325, Mercersburg Classis \$325, Zion's Classis \$300, Virginia Classis \$300, and Carlisle Classis \$300 ; making \$3000.

Assessment for Contingent Fund.

Maryland Classis \$150, Zion's Classis \$80, Carlisle Classis \$80, Juniata Classis \$75, Gettysburg Classis \$75, Mercersburg Classis \$60, Virginia Classis \$50, North Carolina Classis \$50, Portland-Oregon Classis \$15, and San Francisco Classis \$10 ; making \$645.

Assessment for Mercersburg College.

Maryland Classis \$250, Juniata Classis \$125, Gettysburg Classis \$125, Mercersburg Classis \$100, Zion's Classis \$85, Carlisle Classis \$85, and Virginia Classis \$80 ; making \$850.

Assessment for Theological Seminary.

Maryland Classis \$20, Juniata Classis \$12, Gettysburg Classis \$12, Mercersburg Classis \$10, Zion's Classis \$10, Carlisle Classis \$6, and Virginia Classis \$5 ; making \$75.

ARREARAGES.

Including the arrearages reported by the Treasurer in his report to the Synod, your committee find the following arrearages resting at this time upon the different Classes, namely :

Washington Mission Chapel Apportionment : Zion's Classis \$253.50.

Roanoke Mission Apportionment, changed to Church Extension : Gettysburg Classis \$162, North Carolina Classis \$75, and Zion's Classis \$21.10.

Harbor Mission Apportionment : Carlisle Classis \$30, and Zion's Classis \$5.19.

Theological Seminary Apportionment : Maryland Classis \$80, Zion's Classis \$70.88, Carlisle Classis \$66.98, and Virginia Classis \$40.

Contingent Fund Assessment : Zion's Classis \$58.95, Juniata Classis \$50, Carlisle Classis \$47, and North Carolina Classis \$45.

Mercersburg College Assessment : Maryland Classis \$250, Zion's Classis \$113.48, Virginia Classis \$90, Carlisle Classis \$89.19, and Juniata Classis \$50.

Respectfully submitted,

D. N. DITTMAR, *Chairman.*

The arrearages of the San Francisco and Portland-Oregon Classes were, on motion, cancelled, as was also the arrearage of the Carlisle Classis on Washington Mission Chapel.

The consideration of the special committee's report to elaborate a plan for paying money into the treasury of Synod, made a year ago and referred to the present annual meeting for consideration and disposal, was, on motion, indefinitely postponed.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SYNOD.

The Board of Trustees of the Synod presented its annual report to the Synod, during the session of Friday afternoon, which was received and adopted. It is as follows, to wit:

The Board of Trustees of Synod met and organized in conformity with the charter. Rev. A. H. Kremer was elected president, and the undersigned vice-president and secretary.

There has been an increase in the funds secured for the endowment of the Professorship in the Theological Seminary, and these have been safely invested, according to instructions, as see per detailed statement of the Treasurer of Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

October 14, 1887.

E. R. ESCHBACH, *Secretary*.

The committee appointed by the last Synod to co-operate with the pastors in raising the apportionments for Wichita College reported progress, and was continued with instructions to have those Classes reported in arrears by the Treasurer of Synod pay the balance of their apportionments without further delay. Rev. N. H. Skyles was substituted in the place of Rev. A. S. Weber on the committee, the latter having removed beyond the bounds of the Synod. The members of the committee from the Gettysburg and Virginia Classes were relieved from further duty, those Classes having paid their apportionments in full. A bill of \$13.76, incurred by the committee in having circulars printed and for postage, was ordered to be paid by the Treasurer of Synod.

At the election for members of the several Boards of the Synod, Rev. D. N. Dittmar was elected a member of the Board of Trustees of the Synod for the term of five years from January 1, 1888.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Rev. D. N. Dittmar, five years; Elder H. Wirt, four years; Elder M. E. Doll, three years; Dr. L. H. Steiner, two years; and Rev. E. R. Eschbach, one year.

ARTICLE XVI.

APPEALS AND REFERENCES.

None.

ARTICLE XVII.

COMPLAINTS.

None.

ARTICLE XVIII.

SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

The Sunday-school Board presented its Annual Report to the Synod during the session of Wednesday forenoon, which was received and adopted, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Religious Service to make provision to hold the usual Sunday-school anniversary on Saturday evening. The report was as follows:

REPORT OF SUNDAY-SCHOOL BOARD.

Dear Brethren: The Sunday-school Board herewith presents the following report to the Synod:

Through the gracious favor of Divine Providence, the Sunday-school work has enjoyed a year of great prosperity. Sunday-school and church-work conventions have been regularly held in the different Classes. These were generally well attended. Important questions were discussed, and an interest and enthusiasm awakened which was not only a benefit to the Sunday-school work, but a source also of encouragement and profit to pastors and people. Home and Foreign Missions have been made a source of special interest. The claims of our Orphans' Homes, educational institutions, catechization, etc., have claimed the usual attention of our pastors and congregations.

Children's Day, September 25th, as set apart by Synod, has been generally observed, as far as we have been able to learn, in the churches within the bounds of our Synod, and the programme, as prepared by the Publication Board, accepted and used, we believe, with great satisfaction. The Board recommends that Saturday evening, October 15th, be set apart for the Sunday-school Anniversary, and would suggest the following topics, with the following speakers: 1. The Perils of the Youth of To-day; speakers, Revs. J. W. Santee and M. H. Sangree. 2. How to make Bible Study interesting in the Family; speakers, Revs. S. S. Miller and C. J. Musser.

The Board would also report the sum of \$86.03 in the hands of the Treasurer at the close of the fiscal year, October 1st, 1887.

Respectfully submitted,

G. S. GRIFFITH, *President*.

Item 4 of Report on Overtures and Item 7 of Report on Minutes of the General Synod were referred to a special committee for consideration, consisting of Revs. E. R. Deatrick, L. Reiter, C. S. Slagle and Elders H. W. Roller and O. F. Neely.

This committee subsequently presented the following report, which was received and adopted, namely:

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

Your committee, to whom item 7 of the Report on Minutes of General Synod was referred, begs leave to report as follows: Along with the aforementioned item, there was placed in our hands a copy of the action of the Pittsburgh Synod, touching the same matter. After due consideration, we would suggest for your approval the following action:

Resolved, That this Synod acquiesces in the General Synod's request respecting the unification of our Sunday-school papers, Lesson Helps and Instructor for Teachers for the whole Church.

Resolved, That Revs. J. Spangler Kieffer and Conrad Clever, our members in the Sunday-school Board of the General Synod, constitute the committee from this Synod to co-operate with similar committees from other Synods and the Boards of Publication in effecting the proposed changes.

Resolved, That it is the judgment of this Synod that all our Sunday-school Helps and papers be prepared so as to harmonize with the idea of the *Church Year*, and our committee is hereby instructed to endeavor to have them so prepared.

Resolved, That the preparation annually of a service for Christmas Day and Children's Day is not deemed advisable, or advisable so far only as it prepares the way for permanent services for both of those days.

Resolved, That the corresponding secretary transmit a copy of this action to each of the other Synods, and also to the several Boards of Publication.

Respectfully submitted,

E. R. DEATRICK, *Chairman*.

At the election held for members of the different Boards of the Synod, Rev. E. R. Deatrick was elected a member of the Sunday-school Board for the period of five years.

MEMBERS OF THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL BOARD AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Rev. E. R. Deatrick, five years; Rev. B. R. Carnahan, four years; Rev. D. N. Dittmar, three years; Elder G. S. Griffith, two years, and Rev. F. F. Bahner, one year.

ARTICLE XIX.

CHURCH GOVERNMENT.

The Rules adopted by the Synod last year with reference to representation, when the Synod meets as a delegated body, were approved by all the Classes, as reported by the Standing Committee on the Minutes of Classes.

The following standing rule was adopted:

Resolved, That the Stated Clerks of the several Classes be required to page the copies of their minutes furnished for the use of the Synod, and also employ marginal notes designating such items as claim the consideration of the Synod in any manner.

The San Francisco and Portland-Oregon Classes were requested, if possible, to furnish English copies of their Minutes, instead of German copies, for the use of the Synod.

On motion, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, A large number of the delegates in attendance upon the present annual sessions of the Synod appeared after the opening session, or left before the business of the Synod was fully transacted, and, WHEREAS, the duties of delegates are a solemn trust and of such a nature that delegates should be present at all the sessions of the Synod, from the beginning to the end, therefore,—

Resolved, That the Classes be instructed to send as delegates only such of their members as are ready and willing to be present at the opening of the Synod and to remain until the final adjournment.

Resolved, further, That the special attention of the Classes be called to the foregoing action.

ARTICLE XX.

PUBLICATION.

The following report was submitted by the Stated Clerk, in connection with item 30 of the Report on Minutes of Synod, which was received and adopted:

REPORT ON PUBLISHING THE MINUTES.

The undersigned begs leave to report that he had two thousand copies of the Acts and Proceedings of the Fourteenth Annual Meeting of the Synod printed and bound in pamphlet form, and distributed them agreeably to the rules and regulations of Synod in the case. The work was performed by the Reformed Church Publication Board, at the cost of \$172.63, almost ten dollars more than the previous year. The bill was promptly paid by the Treasurer of Synod. The Minutes were issued nearly a month earlier than for several years.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk.*

REPORT OF REFORMED CHURCH PUBLICATION BOARD.

To the Synods of the United States, Pittsburgh and Potomac:

The Publication Board of the Reformed Church in the United States would respectfully submit to the Synods named this, its Twenty-fourth Annual Report:

The Board held three meetings during the year. G. S. Griffith was elected *President* to fill the vacancy caused by the death of George Gelbach, Esq., who had filled the office for four years, and Rev. Charles G. Fisher was continued as *Secretary and Treasurer.*

From Annual Statement submitted by the Superintendent, Rev. Charles G. Fisher, at the last meeting, held September 15th, is to be gathered the following:

Receipts for the Year ending July 31st, 1887.

From periodicals	\$24,302.88
“ book-store	12,931.20
“ rents	837.00
“ collections	108.17
“ miscellaneous sources	1,134.18
Total receipts	\$39,313.43

Disbursements for the Year ending July 31st, 1887.

Loans, etc., paid	\$250.00
Printing, paper and binding	20,889.73
Interest	2,370.44
Commissions	1,416.64
Merchandise	4,550.00
Salaries	6,483.86
Taxes (\$482.09) and insurance (\$137.50)	619.59
Postage	513.22
Miscellaneous	1,869.46
Copy money	318.66
Expenses of members of Board	179.00
Repairs	156.18
Expressage	244.72
Total disbursements	39,861.50
Excess of disbursements	\$548.07

Liabilities, 1887.

Notes on which interest is paid	\$27,511.90
Mortgage on building	15,000.00
Miscellaneous	6,011.93
Total liabilities	\$48,523.83

*Assets, 1887.**Estimate of the Committee.*

Book accounts	\$4,314.76
Periodical accounts	13,001.95
Stock in store	4,657.00
Books in sheets	4,000.00
Paper on hand	584.73
Stereotype plates	2,700.00
Miscellaneous	4,172.00
Real estate	35,000.00
Total of assets	\$68,430.24
Total of liabilities	48,523.83

Excess of assets \$19,906.41

Cost of periodicals published by the Board and the receipts for the same, during the year :

	<i>Messenger.</i>	<i>Sunshine.</i>	<i>Sunday-School Treasury.</i>
Composition, press- work, etc. } . . .	\$4,582.32	\$571.42	\$883.57
Paper	2,246.40	500.00	800.00
Postage	344.96	41.78	71.94
Editors' salaries	2,175.00	50.00	105.00
Commissions	1,300.00	15.00	35.00
Total cost	\$10,648.68	\$1178.20	\$1845.51
Total receipts	12,517.18	1866.92	2787.13
Excess of receipts	\$1,868.50	\$688.72	\$941.62
	<i>Guardian.</i>	<i>Scholars' Quarterly.</i>	<i>Advanced Lesson Paper.</i>
Composition, press- work, paper, etc. } . . .	\$1338.32	\$1934.43	\$821.82
Postage	32.96	63.67	33.72
Editing	180.00	130.00	30.00
Commissions	30.00	25.00	10.64
Total cost	\$1581.28	\$2153.10	\$896.18
Total receipts	1667.99	2507.32	1061.83
Excess of receipts	\$86.71	\$354.22	\$165.65
	<i>Review.</i>	<i>Ref'd Miss'ry Herald.</i>	<i>Primary Lesson Paper.</i>
Composition, press- work, paper, etc. } . . .	\$544.22	\$511.04	\$615.42
Postage	8.48	20.94	14.25

Editing	220.00	120.00	50.00
Commissions . . . . .	. .	3.00	. .
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total cost	\$772.70	\$654.98	\$679.67
Total receipts	739.41	624.79	530.31
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Excess of cost . . .	\$33.29	\$30.19	\$149.34

The amount of receipts above the cost of the six periodicals and the profits from the store have been about sufficient to meet the other salaries, taxes, the excess of cost of the other three periodicals, etc.

The committee appointed to examine the assets, etc., submitted the following report, which was unanimously adopted :

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 14th, 1887.

To the Publication Board of the Reformed Church in the United States :

Your committee appointed to examine the assets of the Board and report at this meeting, respectfully presents the following for consideration :

That the stock in the store is in very good condition, only a few of the books being shop-worn or unsaleable. The reduction reported from the cost price, as given in the Superintendent's report, was only made to place the estimates fully beyond a doubt. The other assets, in the way of periodical and book accounts plates, etc., were liberally reduced, so that you will find them cut down \$21,834.37 from their values as estimated upon the prices paid for them, and at which they stand charged upon the books, and your committee believes that the figures reported to you could certainly be realized from collections of accounts and sale of assets. The value placed upon the real estate is the same as given in last year's report.

The subscription lists of the several periodicals and the business of the store are somewhat larger than last year, as you will see by reference to the report of the Superintendent.

Respectfully submitted,

HY. WIRT,
J. M. SCHICK, } *Committee.*
E. J. DURBAN, }

The number of books, tracts and services of different kinds printed for the Book Department during the year was 55,500, of which number there were 18,000 almanacs.

In the Periodical Department the whole number published during the year was 162,760. These numbers show an increase over those of the preceding year in both departments.

At the last meeting of the Board the following paper and proposition was presented by the Superintendent :

To the Publication Board of the Reformed Church in the United States :

It would seem that our Publication Interests have reached the point when something decisive must be done to save them from embarrassment and demoralization. The present unsatisfactory condition of things is felt to be owing, for the most part, to causes outside of the Board itself. Among these may be noted, 1st, The failure of the fulfillment of the resolve of the Synod of the United States in 1864, viz., to raise at least \$60,000 to put the establishment in as good a position and condition as it was before its destruction at Chambersburg, Pa. 2d. The want of capital to enable it to carry on its business, it having depended entirely upon borrowed money, the interest upon which has been a burden for

it to bear. 3d. The circulation of unverified statements about the Board and its business and condition by irresponsible parties. 4th. A want of harmony and co-operation between the three Synods now represented in the Board, as well as a want of confidence in its success.

As your Superintendent, and as one necessarily familiar with the affairs of the Board, I am not ready to say that they are in a precarious condition, and whatever seeming or imagined straitened condition its finances may be or may be said to be in, is, I believe, owing largely to a want of proper support on the part of the Church, the plant here being such as to be able to do a larger business than is done. I also feel that the Board is by no means to blame for the unsatisfactory condition in which things seem to be, in the minds of some in the Church.

But things cannot go on in this way any longer. As you know I have a claim among the debts owed by the Board to the amount of \$15,000, and am also in a measure responsible to relatives and others to the amount of nearly \$7,000 more, which, together, is more than half of the debt spoken of. These claims I cannot help but feel under the present want of confidence in the future success of the Board—it even being sent through the Church that the Board is “insolvent” and “ready to go into bankruptcy” and the like—and the continued and determined refusal of the three Synods to come forward and relieve the Board of its debts, like they come to the relief of other institutions of the Church, are more or less in danger of being eventually lost, particularly since they are not protected by any security at all.

In view of these things, and the fact that the Publication interests of the Church when under the management of M. Kieffer & Co, a private firm in Chambersburg, Pa., were in a more satisfactory condition—the Church then receiving a fixed sum annually, without any pecuniary responsibility at all—I am constrained to offer to you this day, a proposition for your consideration, feeling it will be a way out of the present condition of things. And, to be true to myself, it is proper for me to say, that I do so, not because I personally desire to do what I offer, but chiefly to relieve the Synods of this whole business, a heavy burden it would seem, and so shape things that they may receive some benefit in a pecuniary way at least.

This proposition is further made in view of your asking the Synods last year to give you authority to sell out to a private firm, which authority was granted, the stereotype plates and periodicals being excepted. The real estate and the stock in store would be undesirable to a purchaser without the assets excepted accompanying them. This is also met in the proposition, so that if it be accepted, the whole establishment would stand as it does now, a change only being made in those conducting the affairs of the Board for the Church or Synods. Evidently a private firm will be able to do what the Synods have refused to do, *viz.*, secure capital to put in the business.

Such a transfer as contemplated here will have the effect to relieve the Synods of much of the annoyance and trouble they have had annually over the affairs of their Board.

The proposition I have to make is as follows:

PROPOSITION.

The undersigned, on the strength of the facts stated in the accompanying paper, with the view of forming hereafter a Publishing Company, as a private firm, that shall carry on the business of publishing books and periodicals for the use of the Reformed Church in the United States, as is now being done by you for the church, or the Synods, would hereby make the following proposition to your body:

1st. The Publication Board of the Reformed Church in the United States to transfer to the undersigned all the property it possesses, viz.: real estate, stock in store and elsewhere, accounts, etc., coming under the name of assets, as set forth in its reports, except stereotype plates and publishing rights; said transfer to be properly made as in all such cases.

2d. The Publication Board to lease to the undersigned the absolute right to use the stereotype plates and to publish books therefrom, and also the right to publish all the periodicals now issued by the Board and receive all the income thereupon, for the term of *ten* years with the privilege of a renewal of the same at its expiration, upon such terms as the Board of Publication and the firm may agree upon.

3d. For this transfer and lease the undersigned agrees that he shall become responsible for all the liabilities or debts held against the Board at the date of transfer, and also will pay to the Board of Publication the amount of *one* per cent. for the first year and thereafter *two* per cent., on the gross receipts of the whole business annually.

4th. The Synods of the United States, Pittsburgh and Potomac, are, in view of the terms of this transfer and lease to agree that they jointly or any one of them will not establish or themselves conduct, or have conducted for them, a publishing house or houses, nor publish any books or periodicals, nor endorse any periodicals that may be published by any private party or individuals, either within or without their respective bounds, and to give to the undersigned or the company he may form, all their own printing or publishing, the rates for such not to be higher than those charged by others for the same work.

5th. The undersigned promises to keep the periodicals and books up to their present standard, as well as keep up with the times as far as practicable, and not to discontinue the publications of any, without first consulting the Board of Publication, and shall issue them at the lowest cost possible.

6th. When vacancies occur in the editorship of "*The Messenger*" and "*Review*," they are to be filled by the Board of Publication, the selections to be agreeable to the undersigned or the firm formed. The salaries of the editors of all the periodicals shall be fixed and paid by the undersigned or firm. The Synodical Editorships are to be filled as now, by their respective Synods.

7th. This transfer and lease are to be made to the undersigned in due form, by December 1st next.

8th. All acknowledgments and notices for the church or its boards to be inserted in "*The Messenger*," as now, free of charge. CHAS. G. FISHER.

Philadelphia, Pa., Sept. 14th, 1887.

The subject presented in the above papers received the earnest attention of the members of the board present,—they fully agreeing with the Superintendent that things cannot go on any longer as they have been,—and after thoroughly discussing it in all its bearings, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the papers be received, and in view of the matter presented and the radical changes involved in the proposition made, the board does not feel willing to recommend to the synods any particular action, but would refer it to them for their serious consideration.

The term of B. Wolff, Jr., as trustee of the Synod of Pittsburgh, and G. S. Griffith, of the Synod of the Potomac, expiring at the end of the present year, the Synods named will, therefore, have to fill the vacancies that will occur in the board, at their coming annual sessions.

Respectfully submitted,

CHAS. G. FISHER, *Secretary.*

G. S. GRIFFITH, *President.*

PHILADELPHIA, PA., Sept. 25, 1887.

II. PROPOSITION OF DANIEL MILLER.

READING, PA., SEPTEMBER 24, 1887.

To the Rev. Synod of Pittsburgh, Synod of the Potomac and the Synod of the United States:

Dear Brethren:—I herewith submit for your consideration the following proposition:

1. I will agree to publish all the periodicals now issued by the Board of Publication in good style, at my own risk, and pay either to the Board or the Synods, as may be agreed upon, a commission of five per centum upon the gross receipts of subscription, except in the case of the *Reformed Review*, which is now said to be published at a loss.

2. I will agree to publish all books in demand, using the Board's plates, and pay a royalty upon every copy sold, as follows: Upon all books sold at \$1.00 and over, ten cents per copy; upon all books sold at 50 cts. to \$1.00, five cents per copy; and upon all books sold at less than 50 cts., three cents per copy.

3. I will guarantee that the commission and royalty from these two sources will amount to at least one thousand dollars per annum.

4. If desired, I will collect, as far as possible, all outstanding subscriptions to the periodicals from subscribers now on the lists, and pay over the amount received as often as agreed upon, less ten per cent. for collecting.

5. I will agree to buy such books now on hand as I can use at the cost of manufacture.

6. All advance payments upon the various periodicals to be paid over to me, less ten per cent.

7. I will agree to arrange with the editorial commission now existing all matters relating to the editing of the various periodicals, with the exception of the Sunday-school periodicals—the editing of which is about to be provided for under a resolution of the General Synod. I will pay all salaries of editors. (This commission to be reappointed in case this plan is adopted, and their powers enlarged, so as to include all the periodicals.)

8. The contract to continue for ten years, unless sooner terminated by mutual consent. At the end of said contract, in case of non-renewal of same, I will deliver over to the Board or Synods all the periodicals and plates, and pay over all advance payments upon the periodicals, less ten per cent.

9. All minor matters to be arranged upon the basis of right and fairness.

10. I will give ample security for a faithful performance of the contract.

11. The Synods to agree that they will neither start any new paper or papers, nor endorse such during the continuance of this contract.

12. The Synods to agree to use their best efforts to encourage the circulation of the papers and books here referred to.

13. All acknowledgments of benevolent contributions, church notices, marriages and death notices to be published in *Messenger* without charge.

14. The Synods to select the Synodical editors, as heretofore.

(Signed)

DANIEL MILLER.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION.

The Standing Committee on Publication, to which the foregoing report and several other papers relating to the same subject had been committed, presented its report, during the session of Saturday forenoon, after recommitment, which was received, amended, and then adopted, as follows:

Your Committee on Publication begs leave to submit the following report:

The following papers were placed in the hands of your committee: 1. The Annual Report of the Publication Board, including a financial statement of the

business affairs of the Publication House. 2. A proposition from the Superintendent of the Board, Rev. C. G. Fisher, to transfer to him our property, and lease for ten years, under certain conditions, the business of the Board. 3. A paper from Daniel Miller, Esq., containing a proposition to publish the books and periodicals of the Board under certain conditions. 4. A paper from Rev. C. G. Fisher, offering an amendment to his former proposition as transmitted through the Publication Board. 5. A transcript of the action of the Pittsburgh Synod on Publication interests. 6. A series of resolutions proposing to accept the proposition of Mr. Miller, and also a series of resolutions favoring the creation of a commission, jointly with the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, for the disposition of the Publication interests.

After a careful and patient examination of the whole subject we find: 1. There has been no material change in the affairs of the Board since last year. 2. This state of things is unsatisfactory to the Board and the Church. 3. From past experience we have no reason to expect any decided improvement in the near future. 4. It is desirable that such change be made in our Publication affairs as will bring relief to the Board and be of permanent advantage to the Church.

It is further laid before your committee that Rev. C. G. Fisher has withdrawn his proposition to have the property and franchises of the Publication interests transferred to him.

In seeking a method of relief for the Church, your committee is impressed with the magnitude of the difficulties in the way; the gravest perhaps of which is the fact that hitherto Rev. C. G. Fisher has no security for his large claim other than that of possession in virtue of his office as Superintendent. Now to ask him to surrender this possession, it is imperatively necessary first to pay him, or to furnish him with satisfactory security. This he has a right to demand, and it is but fair and just that the Synod should accord it. This then is the first step to be taken in the resolution of the difficulty; and until this is satisfactorily effected, all the propositions and resolutions in the hands of your committee must of necessity be held in abeyance.

It is the judgment of your committee that the first thing to be done is to endeavor to raise means to satisfy the claim of Rev. C. G. Fisher. This effected, the way will be open for the consideration of propositions and resolutions looking to the leasing or sale of the establishment. To effect this indispensable preliminary, your committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the resolution adopted last year, directing the sale of the real estate and such of the personal property as may be found to be readily disposable, be reiterated, and that the Board of Publication be authorized to effect such sales and pay the proceeds to Rev. C. G. Fisher, to the full extent of his claim, and continue the reduction of the debt until brought within manageable figures.

Resolved, That the Board of Publication be directed to employ vigorous measures for the collection of outstanding dues, looking to the satisfaction of Rev. C. G. Fisher's claim, and further that it be directed to practice the most stringent measures of retrenchment in current expenses.

Resolved, That the Board be authorized to receive any and all propositions for the lease or purchase of the whole concern, and to report them with their judgment upon them.

Resolved, That the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States and the Pittsburgh Synod be respectfully requested to concur in this action.

Respectfully submitted,

S. N. CALLENDER, *Chairman*.

The following was subsequently adopted:

Resolved, That in case the plan, outlined in the foregoing resolutions, shall not meet with the approval of the other two Synods, or their representatives, this Synod hereby grants power and authority to Henry Wirt and G. S. Griffith, our members of the Board of Publication, to act for this Synod in the disposal of the Publication establishment on such terms as may be deemed advisable by the representatives of the three Synods; *provided*, that as a condition precedent, the claims of Rev C. G. Fisher shall be adjusted satisfactorily to him, and that the terms of disposal be not less financially favorable to the Synods than those offered by Mr. Daniel Miller and Rev. C. G. Fisher.

Resolved, That the two members aforesaid of the Board of Publication shall act for this Synod on the reception and consideration of the resignation of the editor-in-chief of *The Messenger*, should such resignation be tendered during the present synodical year, and in that event said members are hereby authorized to also act for the Synod in making provision for the editorial management of *The Messenger* until the next meeting of the Synod.

Resolved, That the foregoing action be officially communicated to the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, about to convene in annual sessions at Sunbury, Pa., on the 19th instant.

The special committee appointed at the last annual meeting of the Synod, as reported under item 28 of the Report on Minutes of Synod, submitted the following report, which was received and adopted, viz.:

Your committee, appointed last year, to receive and act on the resignation of the editor-in-chief of *The Messenger*, if tendered, begs leave to report that there was no occasion for your committee to meet, the said resignation not having been tendered.

Respectfully submitted,

E. R. ESCHBACH, *Chairman*.

As noted in item 31 of the Report on Minutes of Synod, the Stated Clerk was directed to have five hundred copies of the Rules of Order, as adopted at the last meeting of the Synod, printed for the use of the Synod.

The Stated Clerk stated to the Synod that upon consultation with a number of the members of the Synod, he concluded not to carry into execution the direction of the Synod in the matter, as to have done so would have produced a conflict between the numbering of the Rules of Order so printed and the amended Rules of Order adopted by the General Synod last June, and which have been formally adopted by this Synod at its present meeting. Besides, the General Synod having incorporated those Rules of Order in its published Minutes, which were in the church ready for distribution to the members of Synod, they were available for the purpose desired. The statement of the Stated Clerk was accepted as satisfactory by the Synod.

The Stated Clerk was instructed to have two thousand copies of the Acts and Proceedings of the present sessions, duly authenticated, printed, and to distribute the Minutes among those entitled to receive them.

At the election held for members of the several Boards of the Synod, Elder Goldsborough S. Griffith was re-elected a member of the Board of Publication of the Reformed Church for the term of four years.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF PUBLICATION AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Elder G. S. Griffith	4 years.
Elder Henry Wirt	3 years.

ARTICLE XXI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

During the session of Friday morning the Standing Committee on Nominations presented its report, which was received and adopted, and a sufficient number of tickets of the nominations were ordered to be printed for the use of the Synod. The election was made the order of the day for the opening of the afternoon's session. At the time designated, the election was held, Revs. G. A. Whitmore, C. S. Slagle and Elders W. H. Lakin and C. Weirich acting as tellers, who received the ballots, counted the votes and furnished the President with the result of the election. This result will be found elsewhere, in connection with the action of the Synod on the Reports of the Boards of Education, Regents of Mercersburg College, Visitors and Trustees of the Theological Seminary, Missions, Trustees of Synod, Sunday-school and Publication.

The Standing Committee on Overtures, under items 5 and 6, reported a statement of the workings and finances of Bethany Orphans' Home at Womelsdorf by its Superintendent, and also a similar paper from the President of the Board of Directors of St. Paul's Orphans' Home at Butler, Pa. Rev. Thomas M. Yundt, who was present in Synod, made an earnest appeal in behalf of these charitable institutions. The items were then referred for consideration to a special committee, consisting of Revs. J. W. Santee, T. F. Hoffmeier and Elder W. Dice. The committee subsequently presented the following report, which was received and adopted, to wit:

Your Committee on Orphans' Homes begs leave to present the following report: From the reports of the Superintendent of Bethany Orphans' Home and that of the President of the Board of Directors of St. Paul's Orphans' Home at Butler, Pa., it appears that said institutions are in excellent condition, doing good work, worthy of the confidence of the Church, and deserving liberal support. In the Home at Womelsdorf, which is in a rich section of the Reformed Church, the Superintendent reports seventy-three orphans. Recently eight more were granted admittance, who have not yet entered. For this large number, provision must be made to meet the needs of the Home, for which the farm is unable to provide. In St. Paul's Home there are eighty-three orphans, among them some soldiers' orphans, and the fact that it is spoken of by the Superintendent of the State Orphan homes in his report to the Governor of Pennsylvania, that of all the homes in which there are state soldiers' orphans which he visited, St. Paul's was the only home he could mark No. 1. The State made an appropriation of \$2,100 to it.

On Bethany Orphans' Home there is an indebtedness of about \$1,800; on St. Paul's Orphans' Home it is about \$5,000. This indebtedness, if possible, should be cancelled at an early day, and a gift to these Homes, to set them free of debt, would be a noble offering. The instruction in these Homes is

entirely Christian, and pains are taken to lay a good foundation for an earnest Christian life and for usefulness in the Church. This Christian training looks forward to membership in the Church, and at Bethany Orphans' Home fourteen of the orphans were confirmed last spring. Your committee recommend the following resolutions for adoption:

Resolved, That this Synod rejoices in the continued prosperity of these Homes and the efficient Christian work done by them.

Resolved, That these Homes be earnestly commended to the liberality of the membership of our congregations, and that offerings be made for their use, before or during the Christmas festival, so as to enable them to meet the wants of these Homes.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. SANTEE, *Chairman*.

The special committee, under item 11 of the Report of the Committee on Minutes of Synod, offered the following report, which was received and adopted, to wit:

The special committee, appointed at the last annual meeting of the Synod to enter into correspondence with Elder John Kunrath of Portland, Oregon, begs leave to report, that shortly after the meeting of the Synod, we learned that there was some mistake or misrepresentation in regard to the proposed donation of property for a Mission House. And before the committee had written to the supposed donor, they received letters from Mr. Kunrath, repudiating the offer of Mr. Olinger as wholly unauthorized, and denouncing him as unworthy of confidence for any mission work.

Respectfully submitted,

J. O. MILLER, *Chairman*.

The special committee, noted under item 32 of the Report on Minutes of Synod as appointed last year, failed to report, and a new committee was appointed to consider the matter, consisting of Revs. S. S. Miller, T. F. Hoffmeier, and N. H. Skyles.

Under item 9 of Report on Minutes of General Synod, the District Synods are called upon to take action on the great evil of intemperance and unite in its suppression. Accordingly the following action was unanimously adopted, reiterating the action of the General Synod, namely:

Resolved, That we view with profound regret and sorrow the great evil of intemperance, and especially its sad and deadly fruits of crime, poverty, and temporal and eternal death, and that we here and now, before God and the nation, record our protest against it, and earnestly call upon our Classes and churches to unite with us in zealous and persistent Christian efforts, looking towards its speedy extermination.

At the opening session of the Synod, a Reportorial Committee, consisting of Revs. J. D. Miller, E. R. Deatrick, C. J. Musser, J. W. Knappenberger and L. G. Kremer, was appointed to report the proceedings of the Synod for the public press. The duty was discharged with marked ability, and satisfaction to the Synod. Just before final adjournment, the committee reported, that they had furnished daily reports for the *Philadelphia Press*, *Times* and *Inquirer*, the *Baltimore Sun*, *American* and

Herald, the *Carlisle Herald*, the *Harrisburg Patriot* and *Morning Call*, the *Altoona Tribune*, the *Hagerstown Daily News*, and the *Huntingdon Local News*. Their report was received and adopted.

Instead of making an assessment upon the members of the Synod, the Treasurer of Synod was instructed to pay over to Elder Henry M. Cocklin, Treasurer of the congregation, twenty-five dollars to defray the incidental expenses of the Synod.

During the session of Thursday forenoon, a Committee on Leave of Absence was appointed, consisting of Revs. H. St. J. Rinker, A. F. Dreisbach, A. B. Stoner, and Elders D. S. Rentch and C. Weirich. Near the hour of final adjournment the committee reported that it had granted the following members leave of absence, which was received and adopted, namely: Revs. A. Spangler, F. S. Lindaman, E. R. Eschback, L. G. Kremer, M. H. Groh, J. C. Bowman, and Elders W. C. Ritchey, W. H. Lakin and A. Cluck, on Friday afternoon; Revs. J. O. Miller, J. M. Mickly and J. T. Rossiter on Saturday morning; Revs. I. N. Peightel, C. S. Slagle, and Elders D. S. Rentch and M. W. Bahn, on Saturday afternoon; Elder D. Hildebrand, on Monday forenoon; and Revs. S. N. Callender, A. F. Dreisbach, and Elders G. S. Griffith, F. A. Daihl, H. W. Roller, J. H. Bauserman, W. A. Pence, H. C. Schriver, D. Kump and C. Weirich, on Monday afternoon.

ARTICLE XXII.

MINISTERIAL NECROLOGY.

The Standing Committee on Ministerial Necrology, appointed at the last annual meeting of the Synod, submitted the following report, during the session of Monday evening, which was received, and adopted in silence, the Synod rising for the purpose, namely:

Beloved Fathers and Brethren:

Your Committee on Ministerial Necrology begs leave to present the following report. During the past Synodical year, death has thrice invaded our ranks, and called watchmen from the watch-towers of our beloved Zion.

REV. JACOB D. ZEHRING.

Rev. Jacob D. Zehring departed this life at Codorus, York County, Pa., February 5th, 1887, aged 69 years, 6 months and 11 days. He was born in Lebanon County, Pa., on the 25th day of July, 1817. In his infancy he was dedicated to the Lord by his parents and baptized by the Rev. William Hiester, pastor of the Reformed Church at Lebanon and affiliated congregations. He was confirmed by the Rev. John Gring. In 1841 he entered the institutions of the Church at Mercersburg, and spent four or five years in preparation for the work of the ministry, leaving the Theological Seminary in the Spring of 1846. He was licensed by the Lebanon Classis, at its annual meeting in May 1846, held at Elizabethtown, Lancaster County, Pa. Having received a call to the Palmyra Charge in Lebanon County, he was ordained to the work of the Christian Ministry June 18th, 1846, by a Committee of the Classis that licensed him, consisting of Revs. Thomas H. Leinbach, Henry Wagner, and David Bossler. He continued pastor of the Palmyra Charge two years, and then removed to

Rebersburg, Centre County, Pa., having received and accepted a call to the Rebersburg Charge. In this field he labored two and one-half years. His third pastorate was the Host Charge in Berks County, Pa., which extended over a period of thirteen years. His fourth and last field of labor was the Jefferson Charge in York County, Pa., where he ministered for about sixteen years, until about seven years before his death, when he was stricken with paralysis, which so lamed him in body, that he was unable to prosecute his pastoral labors, and was constrained to give up the active duties of the ministry. He was a laborious and successful pastor. In natural disposition he was kind and genial, and was greatly beloved by the people to whom he ministered in holy things.

REV. MORRIS Z. HITTLE.

Rev. Morris Zwingli Hittle, was born in Douglass Township, Montgomery County, Pa., on the 3d day of September, A. D. 1857. His parents were Jacob and Charlotte (Sassaman) Hittle. His mother died early, leaving him without a mother's care. Baptized in infancy, at the proper age he was catechized and received into full membership of the Reformed Church by the solemn rite of confirmation administered by the Rev. P. P. A. Hoffman. He studied successively in the Boyertown Academy, the Perkiomen Seminary, and at Princeton College as a member of the Freshman Class. He then repaired to the Theological Seminary at Tiffin, Ohio, where he prosecuted his theological studies, graduating from said institution, May 20th, 1885. Eight days later he was licensed to preach the Gospel by the Tiffin Classis. He was ordained to the work of the ministry by the same body, August 2d of the same year. His first field of labor was at Lima, Ohio, where he served the Lima mission for a period of nine months. On the 1st of October, 1886, he became pastor of St. John's Reformed Church of Chambersburg, Pa., serving it as missionary pastor under the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions. After laboring in this field successfully for a period of nine months also, he was compelled by that fatal disease, consumption, to quit his labors, and withdraw to the parental home, where on the 31st of last July, he was summoned from the toils and cares of the Church militant to the joys and rest, as we trust, of the Church triumphant. He was aged 29 years, 10 months and 28 days. Although not favored with a full classical education, he was, nevertheless, an earnest and acceptable preacher in both the English and German languages, and was greatly beloved by his parishioners. His mortal remains lie buried at Huber's Church, where formerly he was a member.

REV. GEORGE H. MARTIN, D.D.

This father in Israel was summoned to his heavenly reward on Sunday night, September 18th, 1887, aged seventy-one years, ten months and twenty-eight days. He was born in Emmitsburg, Md., October 1st, 1816. After receiving the proper instruction, he was confirmed on the 28th day of May, 1835, by the Rev. E. Heiner, D.D., who was then pastor of the Emmitsburg Charge. Soon afterwards he commenced his academical course in the High School, then at York, Pa., and concluded them at Mercersburg, where he graduated from Marshall College in September, 1838. He prosecuted his theological studies at the Seminary at the same place, completing them in the spring of 1841. He was licensed by the Maryland Classis the same year, and subsequently ordained to the ministry by the same body. His first pastoral charge consisted of three congregations in Augusta County, Va., and in 1845 he took charge of four congregations in Rockingham County, Va. In 1849 he

became pastor of the Lovettsville Charge in Loudon County, Va., which he served until the summer of 1865. At the end of the civil war he was called to the Woodstock Charge, where he labored until May, 1884. His next field of labor was the Burkittsville Charge in Maryland, where he remained about eighteen months. In December, 1885, he accepted a call from the Timberville Charge, and again returned to the Valley of Virginia. This charge he served faithfully to the end of his life, although during the last summer, on account of failing health, he was unable to fill his pulpit regularly. The title of Doctor of Divinity was bestowed upon him by Mercersburg College in 1876. He was an earnest and acceptable preacher and a faithful and laborious pastor. This humble and faithful co-laborer has gone to his reward. He has left us the admonition, that we shall labor earnestly while it is day, and raise up others, that the work may be continued from which he was called. He was buried on the following Tuesday evening in the Reformed Cemetery of Woodstock, as the sun was sinking beneath the western horizon, amid a large assembly of his former parishioners and friends.

Respectfully submitted,

C. U. HEILMAN, *Chairman.*

During the session of Monday forenoon the death of Rev. Albert C. Dole, a member of the Synod, which occurred at his home in Huntingdon, Pa., on Saturday, the 15th, was announced. Whereupon the following preamble and resolution were adopted:

WHEREAS, The Synod has, with deep regret, learned of the death of the Rev. A. G. Dole, an esteemed brother in the ministry and an aged member of this Synod, therefore,—

Resolved, That out of respect to his memory the Synod appoint Rev. C. J. Musser, C. U. Heilman, D. S. Dieffenbacher, F. W. Brown and the Elders G. L. Freet, J. R. Lefferd, J. Ritchey and B. Fouse a committee to attend his funeral services on to-morrow afternoon at 2 o'clock.

ARTICLE XXIII.

RESUMPTION AND CLOSE.

The following resolutions were moved and unanimously adopted, to wit:

Resolved, That the Synod tender its sincere and hearty thanks to the pastor and members of St. Paul's Reformed Church of Mechanicsburg, who have so generously entertained us during our stay in their midst, and we invoke the richest blessings of our Beloved Master to rest upon and abide with them in all their relations of life.

Resolved, That the pastor *loci* be requested to read the foregoing action from his pulpit at the next regular Lord's Day service.

Resolved, further, That the Stated Clerk be directed to return the thanks of the Synod to the management of the Cumberland Valley and Pennsylvania Railroads for the courtesy extended of reduced fares over their respective roads to the members of the Synod.

The Synodical Roll was then called, and no one found absent without permission except Elder Caspar Wicke, of the Mercersburg Classis.

The minutes were then read finally and approved, and ordered to be engrossed.

ARTICLE XXIV.

ADJOURNMENT.

The following was adopted shortly before final adjournment, namely:

Resolved, That when the Synod adjourns finally, it be to meet in the Reformed Church, of Woodstock Shenandoah County, Va., on Thursday evening, October 9th, A.D. 1888, at 7 o'clock.

The next annual meeting will be a delegated Synod.

The Synod adjourned finally on Monday night at 10 o'clock, October 17th, with singing a hymn, repeating the Apostles' Creed, joining in the Lord's Prayer, singing a doxology, and Apostolic Benediction by the resident.

JOHN A. HOFFHEINS, *President*.

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk*.

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WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk*.

STATISTICAL REPORTS. CLASSIS OF ZION.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Congs.	Members.	Unconf'd	Baptisms		Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Dismissed.	Excom.	Deaths.	S. Schools.	S. S. Schl's.	Stud. for Ministry.	Contributions.		POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.	
					Inf'ts	Adults										Benef. Purp.	Comm. Purp.		
Daniel Riegel,	Dillsburg,	2	275	175	10				175			3	2	75			\$49 00	\$ 325 00	Dillsburg, York County, Pa.
Jacob Ziegler,	Without charge,																		437 W. Market St., York, Pa.
Jacob O. Miller, D. D.,	1st Ref. Church, York,	1	375	200	29		24	6	330	10		6	3	525	1		973 00	4534 00	23 N. Beaver street, do do
Aaron Wanner, D. D.,	Kreutz Creek,	4	350	245	24		2 15		207	4		8	4	370			235 00	1050 00	N. Duke street, do do
Aaron Spangler,	Trinity,	6	373	237	11		18		282				7	297			100 00		507 W. Market street, do do
Reuben Rahauser,	Without charge,																		534 W. Philad'a St., do do
Israel S. Weisz, D. D.,	Paradise,	4	965	583	83		5 32	15	863	13		43	10	490			307 00	1950 00	441 W. Market street, do do
Vacant,	Heidelberg,	1	300	225	11		3 19	30	235	1		1	1	400			160 00	1400 00	104 S. Duke street, do do
Ambrose D. Gring.	Shrewsbury,	4	555	475	37		8 12	500	5			12	4	335			200 00	1170 00	Shrewsbury, York County, Pa.
A. F. Dreisbach,	Mt. Pleasant,	5	132	64	11				69	1		7	5	211			23 00	470 00	Red Lion, do do
Phaon W. Snyder,	Hoover's congregation	1	50	23	5				30			3	1	45			130 00	75 00	
Supplied,	Rosstown	1	40	30	1		7 15		33			1	1	45			8 00	100 00	East Berlin, Adams Co., Pa.
do	Bethany Ref. do	1	33	20	1		4	6	31			1	1	62			7 00	65 00	New Freedom, York Co., Pa.
do	Zion's,	1	350	175	10		1 12	6	118	3		130	3	1	258	2	75 00	1000 00	York, do do do
Oliver P. Schellhamer,																			
Total, 11.		31	3798	2452	233	18	147	75	2873	37	130	87	40	3113	3	\$2267 00	12169 00		

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconfr'd.	Baptisms.		Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Dismissed.	Excom.	Deaths.	S. C.	S. C.	M. C.	B. C.	Corp.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
				Inf'rs.	Adults.												
Joseph W. Santee, D. D., George L. Staley, D. D., Edmund R. Eschbach, D. D., William Goodrich, Simon S. Miller, J. Spangler Kieffer, D. D. Joel T. Rossiter, Nehemiah H. Skyles, T. Frankin Hoffmeier, John G. Noss, Anthony Shulenberger, William Rupp, D. D., Leighton G. Kremer, Marion L. Fitor, Conrad Clever, Silas M. Hensch, Charles F. Sontag, E. E. Ranson Deatriek, A. B. Stoner, Henry Ditzler, Henry I. Comfort, U. Henry Heilman, David A. Souders, David P. Leferre, James W. Meyer, Samuel L. Whitmore Louis F. Zinkhan, Henry Wissler, Harry W. Hoffmeier, W. Augustus Gring, Jacob E. Kerschner, Henry E. Cook, T. F. Hoffmeier, supply, H. Ditzler, Vacant, Vacant,	4 1 2 2 1 1 2 2 2 2 4 4 2 1 5 1 4 4 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 3																

* Statistics included in Taneytown charge.

CLASSIS OF MERCERSBURG.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Congrs.	Members.	Unconf'd.	Baptisms		Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Dismissed.	Excom.	Brsures.	Deaths.	S. Schools.	Stud. for the Min'y.	Contributions.		POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.	
					Infant	Adults										Benev'n'l purposes.	Cong'n'l purposes.		
William M. Deatrick, D.D., Jacob Hassler, Isaac M. Motter, William C. Gremer, Franklin F. Bahner, Cyrus Cort, G. W. Aughinbaugh D.D. George B. Russell, D.D., Jairus A. Wiekert, J. Wm. Knappenberger, Simon Wolf, P. Allison Long, J. David Miller, Vacant, George R. Zacharias, Jeriah S. Shade, John M. North,	Without charge, Supply London charge, St. Paul's, Waynesboro, Chambersburg, Waynesboro, Greencastle, Without charge, Supply Mont Alto ch., St. Thomas, Mercersburg, McConnellsburg, Grindstonehill, Shippensburg, St. John's, Chamb'g, Without charge, Without charge, Disabled lic' ntiatc,	2 1 1 3 2 2 1 3 3 3 3 1 1 25	175 113 364 484 354 91 156 358 161 183 265 70	85 85 287 212 245 49 94 216 80 69 100 29		4 12 17 21 10 9 3 19 5 6 3 3	6 1 19 7 2 9 4 12 1 7 8	14 14 40 18 14 1 1 6 19 6 1 4 8	4 2 5 18 14 1 1 2 6 1 5 12	155 100 270 426 314 78 121 289 115 180 205 67	2 8 3 9 6 4 5 1 1 2 1		8 2 2 15 11 2 2 3 7 7 1	2 1 1 15 2 1 3 3 2 1 1		\$147 61 291 40 1873 80 244 00 257 31 40 66 57 39 310 35 45 00 140 00 155 00 34 30	\$560 00 895 00 2134 92 1160 00 1152 87 160 00 687 00 1058 62 468 00 830 00 826 70 198 75	Mercersburg, Franklin Co., Pa. Fort London, do do Waynesboro, do do Chambersburg, do do Waynesboro, do do Greencastle, do do Mercersburg, do do Zullinger, do do St. Thomas, do do Mercersburg, do do McConnellsburg, Fulton Chambersburg, Franklin Shippensburg, Cumberland Chambersburg, Franklin Upper Strasburg, do do McConnellsburg, Fulton Mercersburg, Franklin Co., do	
Total, 16.		25	2774	1551	112	55	136	74	2320	64	1	12	83	21	2130	3	\$3596 82	\$10131 86	

CLASSIS OF GEORGETOWN.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Congrs.	Members.	Unconf'd.	Baptisms	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Dismissed	Exec.	Deaths.	St. Sch's.	St. Min.	Contributions.	Pa.			
					Inf'ts.	Adults											
William K. Zieber, D.D.,	Without charge,													Pa.			
Moses Klefer, D.D.,	"													do			
David U. Wolf,	"													do			
Henry Hilbish,	Second Hanover,	3	464	290	16	4	21	20	389	11	8	6	3	365	\$2225 00	do	
David N. Dittmar,	Littlestown,	1	245	223	18		4	9	229	9	19	7	1	171	2	do	
John C. Bowman,	First Hanover,	1	300	135	16		13	7	280	4		1	1	225	1	do	
Thomas J. Barkley,	Gettysburg,	2	381	224	11	3	4	5	322	4	6	2	225	290	00	do	
Milton H. Sangree,	Arendtsville,	2	330	300	15	3	26	7	315	6	6	2	230	250	00	do	
John H. Hartman,	Lisheys,	4	634	550	78	2	45	4	600	5	4	15	2	150	176	00	
Franklin A. Guth,	Jefferson,	3	650	566	54	3	41	3	623	10	22	3	300	717	00	do	
Henry H. Sangree,	Without charge,														do		
Walter E. Krebs,	"														do		
William H. Herbert,	Abbottstown charge,	3	530	265	18	1	52	7	431	10	8	2	200	139	00	do	
John J. Stouffer,	East Berlin,	4	351	170	25	6	56	4	307	4	19	3	115	89	00	do	
Francis S. Lindaman,	Christ Church,	3	650	350	45	2	79	25	575	13	11	3	300	312	00	do	
Ambrose C. Geary,	Cashtown,	3	306	219	15		7		215		3	2	125	73	00	do	
															do	do	
Total 16.	11	29	4841	3292	311	24	348	91	4286	76	31	104	24	4206	4	\$3852 00	\$14439 00

CLASSIS OF CARLISLE.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Cong.	Members.	Unconf'd.	Baptism		Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Excom.	Deaths.	S. S. Sch's.	Stud. Min.	Contributions.		Pa.
					Inf'ts.	Adults								Benev.	Con- g.	
Wm. R. H. Dearrich,	New Bloomfield,	3	300	140	14	6	23	5	280	6	6	3	361	\$208 00	\$1200 00	Newport, Perry County,
Geo. W. Glessner, D.D.,	Without charge,															Shippensburg, Cumberland
J. Marion Mickle,	Newburg,	1	134	76	6	3	13	13	134		4	3	150	111 00	735 00	Newburg,
Amos H. Kremer, D.D.,	Carlisle,	1	251	175	7	2	17	5	245	4		7	165	224 00	1225 00	Carlisle,
George E. Addams,	Sulphur Springs,	4	250	57	3	2	10	1	170		4	2	125	97 00	752 00	Do
Milton H. Grob,	Landisburg,	4	453	321	9		4	375	9		2	4	250	397 00	1246 00	Landisburg, Perry County,
Sol. B. Shafter,	Without charge,															Martinsburg, Blair
Wm. I. Stewart,	Mechanicsburg,	2	261	156	7	3	10	11	205	1	5	4	150	215 00	1376 00	Mechanicsburg, Cumberland
Sam'l S. Myer,	Duncannon,	3	104	42	1	1	6	3	91		2	2	205	59 00	169 00	Duncannon, Perry
Silas L. Messinger,	Zion's,*	4	475	200			1	1	450		3	6	250	290 00	4200 00	Blain,
Vacant,	St. Andrew's Cong.,	1	23	20					20			1	30			
Total, 10.		23	2221	1187	47	17	80	30	1970	20	13	29	22	\$1601 00	\$10903 00	

* Lately taken charge.

CLASSIS OF JUNIATA.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Congregati's.	Members.	Members unconfirmed.	Baptisms		Confirmed.	By Certif. or Renew. Prof.	Communi- cants.	Dis- missed.	Excom.	Erasures.	Deaths.	S. Schools.	S. School Scholars.	Students for Ministry.	Contributions.		POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.	
					Infants.	Adults.											Benev. Purp's.	Cong'l Purp's.		
Albert G. Dolr	Without charge,	1	143	102	16	1	4	5	120	6		1	1	1	90	1		\$324 00	\$1099 00	Huntingdon Co., Pa.
Elias D. Shoemaker,	Disabled,																			Bedford, Bedford
Ellis N. Kremer,	Bedford,																			do do
Frederick A. Rupley, D.D.,	Without charge,	4	443	295	10	6	25	2	428	8		2	6	4	275	1		119 00	1029 00	Martinsburg, Blair
Henry F. Long,	Woodcock Valley,	3	299	199	13	4	12	15	245	3		5	6	3	252	1		188 00	823 00	James Creek, Huntingdon
Isaac N. Peightel,	Yellow Creek,	3	282	184	11	2	26	4	237	8				7	3	166		117 00	849 00	Loysburg, Bedford
Calvin S. Slagle,	Dunning's Creek,	3	99	58	3	1			86	3								24 00	184 00	Cessna, do
David G. Klein,	Clear Ridge,	3	256	238	33	1	8	2	227	5		6	3					133 00	725 00	Clearville, do
Andrew T. G. Apple,	Friend's Cove,	3	267	78	10	3	9	3	244	3		3	2	224				75 00	816 00	Charlesville, do
William A. Long,	Hickory Bottom,	3	374	285	15	3	7	6	327	4		5	2	230				831 00	770 00	Martinsburg, Blair
Edgar S. Haessler,	St. Clairsville,	3	240	144	3	17	3	208	6					2	93			142 00	534 00	St. Clairsville, Bedford
Franklin W. Brown,	Schellsburg,	3	423	203	27	6	21	12	380	9		1	4	2	220			773 00	1929 00	Schellsburg, do
Calvin U. Heilman,	Water Street,	3	283	172	29	3	24	16	209	5				16	2	130		105 00	417 00	Alexandria, Huntingdon
Samuel C. Long,	Sulphur Springs,	3	477	305	41	2	19	45	432	10		1	8	1	350			533 00	1767 00	Mann's Choice, Bedford
Diodorus S. Diefenbacher,	Altoona,	2	390	164	14	4	32	19	253	13				7	2	275		456 00	1624 00	Altoona, Blair
Cyrus J. Musser,	Huntingdon,	4	475	468	52	3	40	3	390	3				12	5	420	1	152 00	638 00	Huntingdon, Huntingdon
Christian W. Summey,	Greenfield,	3	172	110	3	1	3	6	135	1				2	2	125		64 00	417 00	Claysburg, Blair
Joel W. Alspach,	Everett,	3	83	47	1	1			65	1								9 50	76 00	Everett, Bedford
Charles W. E. Siegel,	Orbisonia,	2	321	198	18	3	10	3	289	14				6	2	219	3	198 00	780 00	Orbisonia, Huntingdon
John W. Pontius,	Martinsburg,																			Martinsburg, Blair
Total, 20		47	5028	3250	299	42	256	144	4295	102		10	96	37	3269	7		\$4353 50	\$15575 00	

CLASSIS OF SAN FRANCISCO

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Congs.	Members.	Unconfr'd.	Baptisms		Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Dismissed.	Excom.	Burials.	Deaths.	S. Schools.	S. S. Sch'l's.	Min. Stud.	Contributions.		POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
					Inf'ts.	Adults											Benev. Purp's.	Con- g's.	
Julius Fuendeling, George Mechtshheimer,	Independent, Without Charge, San Francisco,	1	14		1				14				1	1	50			\$27 50 \$550 00	San Francisco, California. do Stockton,
Theodore G. De Lyre, Vacant.	Napa, Stockton,	1	60	40	9		4		50	4			6	1	33			15 00 250 00	San Francisco, California. Napa, California.
Lewis D. Leberman, Charles M. Schaaf, R. H. Stahl,	San Diego,	1	20						52					1	56				Philadelphia, Pa. Huntington Ind. San Diego, Cal.
Total, 6.		4	148	40	10		4		116	4			7	3	139			\$42 50 \$800 00	

CLASSIS OF PORTLAND-OREGON.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Cong.	Members.	Unconfr'd.	Baptisms		Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Dismissed.	Excom.	Deaths.	S. Schools.	S. S. Sch'l's.	Min. Stud.	Contributions.		POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
					Inf'ts.	Adults										Benev. Purp.s.	Comp. Purp.s.	
Johann Gantenbein, D. D., Jacob Mülhaupt, Julius Lange, H. A. Schwichtenberg, Gottfried Graedel, A. H. Baumann, J. B. Braun,	Portland, Salem, Meridian, St. Peter's, Seattle, Washougal, West Union,* Astoria.*	1 3 2 2 1 1	65 59 51 71 40 25	90 73 73 75 46	20 7 3 11	 5 1	 8 5 4 15	60 50 27 61 25	20 2 9 6 1	3 2 1 1	3 3 1 1	60 64 26 43 62	1 3 1 1	60 2 26 43 62	 <			

* No report received.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY. Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States.

CLASSES.	Ministers.	Congregations.	Members.	Uncon- firmed Members.	Baptisms.		Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communicants.	Dismissed.	Excommuni- cated.	Names.	Deaths.	Sunday Schools.	Sunday School Scholars.	Students for the Holy Ministry.	Contributions.	
					Infants.	Adults.											Benevolent Purposes.	Con- grega- tional Purposes.
Zion's, -	11	31	3,798	2,452	233	18	147	75	2,873	37		130	87	40	3,113	3	\$2,267 00	\$12,169 00
Maryland, -	32	59	7,079	4,744	441	42	409	227	6,195	165	1	37	228	55	6,134	11	11,300 00	32,808 00
Mercersburg, -	16	25	2,774	1,551	112	55	136	74	2,330	64	1	12	83	21	2,130	3	3,597 00	10,132 00
Virginia, -	14	29	2,305	1,191	101	54	132	61	1,935	44		39	31	20	1,264	2	2,669 00	9,446 00
North Carolina, -	15	36	2,313	1,419	171	18	119	31	1,972	23		2	52	22	1,503	5	474 00	7,867 00
Gettysburg -	16	29	4,841	3,292	311	24	348	91	4,236	76		31	104	24	2,406	4	3,852 00	14,439 00
Carlisle -	10	23	2,221	1,187	47	17	80	30	1,970	20		13	29	22	1,686		1,601 00	10,903 00
Junata, -	20	47	5,028	3,250	299	42	256	144	4,295	102		10	96	37	3,269	7	4,353 00	15,515 00
Portland-Oregon, -	7	9	311	357	41		6	17	223	38			5	7	255		210 00	2,232 00
San Francisco, -	6	4	148	40	10		4		116				7	3	139		43 00	800 00
Total, 10 Classes,	147	292	30,818	19,483	1,766	270	1,637	750	26,185	569	2	274	722	251	21,899	35	\$30,366 00	\$116,321 00
Synod of the United States, 11 Classes,	222	466	80,470	46,430	5,595	467	4,304	2,007	65,505	1072	4	651	2,399	548	52,623	72	60,931 00	325,248 00
Synod of Ohio, -	111	233	18,678	9,212	816	560	1,262	671	14,645	444	9	529	315	208	17,727	23	13,203 00	84,010 00
Synod of Pittsburgh, -	59	129	13,051	9,212	833	116	719	426	10,593	326	1	261	235	99	7,621	17	11,308 00	54,080 00
Synod of the North West, -	118	167	15,635	11,398	1,431	7	945	848	11,237	207	15	334	342	163	8,527	21	13,573 00	66,894 00
German Synod of the East, -	47	42	12,708	7,625	2,060	11	733	597	9,734	49	2	268	430	46	8,704	8	6,223 00	76,106 00
Central Synod, -	79	115	16,589	10,503	1,115	40	822	612	12,448	209	5	399	371	100	9,916	20	8,769 00	67,190 00
Synod of the Interior, -	39	68	2,578	1,518	127	29	120	140	1,927	41		44	38	49	2,702	3	2,924 00	51,443 00
Grand Total, 8 Dis't Synods; 54 Classes,	822	1,512	190,527	111,436	13,743	1,500	10,542	6,051	152,274	2,917	38	2,700	4,852	1,464	129,713	207	\$147,297 00	\$841,292 00

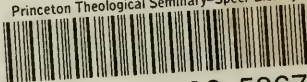
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